Movies Pg 18

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Firefighter knocked out in collapse

BLAZE A Chestermere firefighter was taken to hospital unconscious after the roof of a building on fire collapsed yesterday afternoon, knocking him out.

Calgary Fire Department firefighters Allan Tillotson and Jadon Nakrieko, who were assisting with the blaze in the 200 block of Springmere Place in Chestermere, along with a Chestermere firefighter, pulled the unconscious firefighter from the building.

Fire crews continued to battle the blaze and continued to search the building for occupants. No one else was found inside.

The fire destroyed the roof area and much of the second level of the building.

Chestermere Fire Department is investigating.

METRO CALGARY

Beijing page 16

Phelps nabs sixth gold

Music page 26

Girlicious sick of TV stigma

China **Leap forward**

GARY HERSHORN/REUTERS

Canada's Jessica Zelinka competes in her women's heptathlon 100m hurdles heat during the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Zelinka, who trains in Calgary, stood in second place at the end of the race, the first event of the seven-event competition. More Olympics coverage, page 16, 17.

Morning crash sends 5 to hospital

INJURIES The morning rush didn't go so well for a car full of people who wound up in hospital yesterday.

At about 7:30 a.m. an off-duty fireman happened across the scene of a four door Mazda Protege, turning left from westbound 16 Ave., that had crashed into a tree on Russett Road NE and immediately started assessing patients, all believed to be in their 30s.

While fire crews had to manipulate the passenger side door to get at one of the patients, two men were transported to Foothills hospital with potentially life-threatening head injuries while two other men and a woman were sent to Peter Lougheed hospital with less serious injuries, including neck pain, said EMS' Stuart Brideaux.

Calgary police are investigating the crash's cause.

NEIL MACKINNON/METRO CALGARY

City eyes 'magnet for crime'

Cecil purchase in works

NEIL MACKINNON
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Some of Calgary's downtrodden linger outside; some idly chatting, smoking cigarettes, others hunkered down on the steps and against the wall.

For now it's going to stay that way but maybe not for long.

Calgary's corporate properties and buildings department confirmed the city "is in the very early stages of negotiations to purchase the Cecil Hotel," said Kathryn Osterberg, adding only that the building "is required by the city for municipal purposes."

"It could help us get a handle on a corner of downtown where we certainly need a handle.."
Ald. Bob Hawkesworth

The Cecil, a "magnet for crime and illicit activity," would fit nicely with Calgary's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, said Ald. Bob Hawkesworth, and its purchase would enable the city to make both area residents and downtown travellers feel safe.

"It could help us get a handle on a corner of downtown where we certainly need a handle," said Hawkesworth. "It would allow the city to manage that building and the people in it so that we could properly address some of the negative issues surrounding it, making it a very positive acquisition."

Cecil Hotel, 4 Ave. and 3 St. SE

A recent bid by the Calgary Drop-In Centre to buy the hotel on the corner of 4 Ave. and 3 St. SE, convert it into affordable living space and open a grocery store so "residents didn't need transportation to get food," fell through, said the Centre's Louise Gallagher.

"We failed to meet their reserve," said Gallagher, adding she couldn't reveal the amount offered or the reserve amount set by the hotel. "We had some pretty big plans for the place."

Cecil Hotel owner Sam Silverman refused comment on the matter but has publicly acknowledged a crime problem near the hotel.

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Woman rescued from building fire
A 23-year-old woman was taken to hospital after EMS rescued the woman from a building fire in the 2600 block of Crowchild Trail SW. She was taken to Foothills in non-life threatening condition and treated for moderate smoke inhalation. METRO CALGARY

Local

Don't miss Parade of Ponds

The 2008 Parades of Ponds Tour benefiting the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation begins this Saturday until Tuesday. The tour brings you beautiful landscapes, waterfalls and more. For more information please visit www.waterworksponds.ca. METRO CALGARY

City courses to review signage

BREAK-INS In response to a Metro exclusive story about McCall Lake Golf course parking lot break-ins, the City of Calgary said it is going to review parking lot signage.

While the city recognizes there has been a recent spike in the number of thefts in city-owned golf course parking lots, golf course operations manager Greg Shymanski told Metro that standard signage warning car owners of theft exists in parking lots.

"There has been an increase lately in theft, and we are looking at reviewing the wording of the signage because of that and we may update that."

Shymanski added that cars can get broken into anywhere in the city and there isn't much more courses can do than to "educate and inform" people.

"People need to take notice and don't leave valuables in the car. If thieves break-in and find nothing, they won't stick around that area." KRISTA SYLVESTER /METRO CALGARY

News in brief

RAID City police have charged the 27-year-old owner of a Your Choice Pizza restaurant on Morley Trail NW after a raid. Piotr Peter Krol is suspected of selling marijuana to nearby high school students out of the business. METRO CALGARY

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Det. Mike Cavilla, President of the CPS Rodeo Association Board and Ward Stene, Director of the CPS Rodeo Association Board, have some fun with handcuffs and bull-riding ropes as they announced the CPS Rodeo will be held in Airdrie this weekend.

Cowboys and cuffs at rodeo

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

The badges will come off but the boots will stay on when the city police saddle up this weekend for the 26th annual Calgary Police Rodeo.

Over 100 police officers from across North America are squaring off in the spirit of rodeo in support of the Missing Children's Society of Canada's (MCSC) Project Reunite search program. .

"It's a fun event where you get to see cowboy cops flying around all for a good cause," bull riding detective Mike Cavilla said.

"I'm riding a bull named 'Double Trouble', and yeah, it's pretty scary. I don't know if it is scarier than working each day, but it's scary," he laughed.

The goal is to raise $5,000 at this year's rodeo to go towards finding some of the missing 60,000 Canadian children a year, according to director Marilyne Aalhus.

"It's really great because it gives us exposure too and it's just so interesting to see these police officers get on horses and bulls. It's definitely an experience," she said.

The rodeo begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the Airdrie Professional Rodeo Grounds. Country singer Justin Ament will provide entertainment and 20 professional bull riders will take on 20 crazy bulls.

No charges in parking lot runover

TICKET Police are not laying charges against a driver who backed over a 12-year-old boy in a northeast mall parking lot Wednesday afternoon.

Police did however hand the driver, whose name will not be released, a ticket under the Traffic Safety Act for the incident.

City cops warn the public to be vigilant in always making sure the roads are clear when backing up, and for parents to watch their kids in parking lots and near roads.

The driver was slowly backing out of the parking lot off of Memorial Drive NE when the vehicle pinned the boy underneath the car.

METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Watch video of a local high school student's research linking MSG and Alzheimers and a report on the risks of humanitarian missions abroad. Also, footage from the funeral of a Montreal teen slain by police
Read Marty York's CFL Report and game predictions

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Tight security through end of Games

Calgarians might notice extra security at the Chinese Consulate in downtown until the end of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The security was beefed up just to add security during the controversial summer games. METRO CALGARY

Tony Johanson hopes to see his short film festival grow.

Short Film fest starts Sunday

NEIL MACKINNON
for Metro Calgary

It's amazing what a person can do in eight-minutes.

Ming Lounge's fourth annual Short Film Festival kicks off Sunday with a four film showing and while participant numbers have ebbed and flowed over the years, it's starting to take on a life of it's own, said Ming manager Tony Johanson.

"We're at the point where we're looking to take this thing to the next level," said Johanson, noting the grand prize is $2,000 and future prize money hikes are in the works. "You would be surprised with what some of these guys can cram into eight minutes. They're quite innovative."

Beginning Sunday at Ming, the festival, which narrows the field by public vote, runs until Wednesday, then starts again from Aug. 24 to 26, with an Awards Gala and showcase of the top 10 slated for Sept. 13.

Local soccer stars get dream invitation, for Real

NEIL MACKINNON
for Metro Calgary

It seems young for an overseas business trip.

Fun must stay in the equation, said Yaw Addai, 14, "because if you take it too seriously, you'll screw everything up."

But it will play only a minor part for a quartet of young Rubens Soccer Academy players who were hand-picked to head to Spain this weekend for week-long elite training with internationally renowned Real Madrid.

"For me, it's going to be strictly business, I'm going to have fun, but you have to be serious," said Niko Mellino, a 13 year-old left-winger.

"This is the opportunity like you only get once in your life and hopefully they'll remember my name when I leave and I can go pro someday."

Addai, Mellino, Matthew Tarko, 13, and Robbie Owen, 13, were checked out by a New Jersey-based Real Madrid representative that invited the group to Spain after watching a series of games in Calgary.

"It's the biggest thing I've done in my life so far," said Owen.

"If we do all our best, we'll at least have a chance to make it," added midfielder Tarko.

"You can't let your nerves interfere because this might be the only chance you get."

Starting Monday, the four will practice for five days, play two games and watch a Real Madrid exhibition game against Valencia CF Saturday.

ROBIN KUNISK/FOR METRO CALGARY

City soccer players (from left) Robbie Owen, 13, Niko Mellino, 13, Matthew Tarko, 14 and Yaw Addai, 14will get the chance to play at an elite soccer camp with the Real Madrid soccer club.

Teen shows perils of MSG

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Calgary

One 17-year-old's parents have been encouraging her to stay indoors this summer.

While her peers are out in the sunshine, Michelle Ah-Seng has made what both she and her superiors consider to be exciting findings about the effects of monosodium glutamate (MSG) on brain cells. The enthusiastic Cochrane High School student was one of 22 students invited to research topics at the University of Calgary and found that MSG has negative impacts on brain cells. "You look for that eureka moment and you get that satisfaction," said Ah-Seng.

Tests on snail cells showed MSG inhibited their growth and the way the cells talked to each other in the pre-synaptic and post-synaptic relationship.

Ah-Seng says it's particularly important for pregnant women and the elderly to watch how much MSG they consume since the blood-brain barrier, which prevents MSG from entering the brain, isn't properly developed in a fetus and begins to deteriorate in the elderly.

Other research links MSG to neurodegenerative diseases and childhood obesity or learning difficulties.

MSG is found in Chinese food, instant noodles or chips and naturally in tomatoes and mushrooms, said Ah-Seng, though it's considered to be safe in moderation.

Ah-Seng will consider publishing her findings, but said these are very preliminary results and that she hopes to continue studying it throughout her senior year.

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News in brief

GAS Ontario truck drivers may ease Petro-Canada's Alberta gas shortage. While 14 stations in Calgary have run out and more are on the brink due to an Edmonton refinery breakdown, the petroleum company said Thursday it hopes it have Ontario tanker trucks moving soon to mitigate the short supply in Alberta.

HOUSING MARKET Calgary's drop in average housing prices led the nation with an eight per cent decline compared to a year ago, according to a Canada Real Estate Association report released Thursday.
The report also said the average July sale price in Calgary was $402,788, still more than $70,000 above the national average.

SENTENCING Calgarian Steven Michael Mitchell was sentenced to at least 15 years in prison before parole eligibility for the stabbing death of his girlfriend Mary Kay Schmidt almost three years ago. He is also banned for life from owning weapons and must provide a DNA sample. METRO CALGARY

MoreOnline
metronews.ca

She to show high-end lingerie at fundraiser

EVENT Calgarians are invited to preview new lines of sexy fashion and it's all for a good cause.

SHE, a downtown specialty lingerie shop, is hosting their first annual Desires, a high-end lingerie and swimwear fashion show, with 100 per cent of the proceeds to go to the Calgary MS Society.

The show will be held at Hotel Arts Aug. 15 and Smith said the response has been good.

Regular tickets are $100 each, while VIP tickets are going for double the price.

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Manitoba investigates first West Nile cases of the summer

Two cases of West Nile virus in humans have been reported in Manitoba. A Winnipeg man in his 50s has tested positive for the virus. The second, out-of-province person is believed to have visited western Manitoba and caught the virus there. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

Rowdy flyer charged

A B.C. man has been accused of causing a disturbance on a WestJet flight from Vancouver to Winnipeg on Wednesday. Winnipeg police allege the "agitated, irritable" man yelled at passengers and flight attendants, and caused damage to the plane's overhead panels during the flight. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Aid workers honoured

OTTAWA International Co-operation Minister Beverly Oda gave her condolences to the families of the two Canadian humanitarian workers gunned down Wednesday in a Taliban ambush in Afghanistan.

Foreign aid workers regularly "demonstrate the strength of their courage and their compassion" on missions such as the one Jacqueline Kirk and Shirley Case were deployed to in the war-torn country.

British-Canadian Kirk, 40, from Montreal, and Case, 30, of 100 Mile House, B.C., were killed when Taliban fighters shot at their vehicle south of Kabul. Trinidadian-U.S. citizen Nicole Dial, 32, and 25-year-old driver Mohammad Aimal also died in the attack. All three women were working for New York-based International Rescue Committee.

"They demonstrate the strength of their courage and their compassion."

"All members of government recognize the sacrifice that has been given," the minister said.

Oda said many countries are increasingly concerned about the safety of aid workers in warzones, and noted that aid groups are required to share safety and security plans with Canadian officials.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Montreal **Slain youth mourned**

FRANÇOIS PESANT/MÉTRO MONTRÉAL

More than 300 people gathered yesterday to pay their last respects to Fredy Villanueva, 18, who was shot and killed by Montreal police last week. More video online at metronews.ca.

Russians in 'Soviet-era'

OTTAWA Russia's military intrusion into Georgia reflects a "Soviet-era mentality" that is deeply troubling, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Thursday as he urged Moscow to withdraw.

"I am deeply troubled by a notion ... that Russia somehow has a say or some control over countries outside of its borders. In my judgment this is a very worrisome development," Harper said.

"It really indicates a Soviet-era mentality and I think it is something that all democratic countries should speak out strongly against and I hope Russia will reconsider its actions," Harper said.

Russian troops have occupied parts of Georgia since repelling a Georgian attack last week on South Ossetia. **REUTERS**

News in brief

OTTAWA Prime Minister Stephen Harper suggested Thursday he may have to force the dissolution of Parliament and trigger an election. He complained about legislation being stalled in the Liberal-dominated Senate and obstructed in the House of Commons. **REUTERS**

TORONTO Abestos worries continue in the neighbourhood near last week's propane blast. Authorities had allowed some families to return home and some daycares and community centres to re-open, only to reclose them after abestos were discovered. Residents want to know what danger they're in. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

OTTAWA Unsuccessful Conservative election candidate Sam Goldstein disrupted Thursday's ethics committee session on an election ad scandal, saying he was being denied the right to speak — but it wasn't Sam Goldstein's day to testify before the committee.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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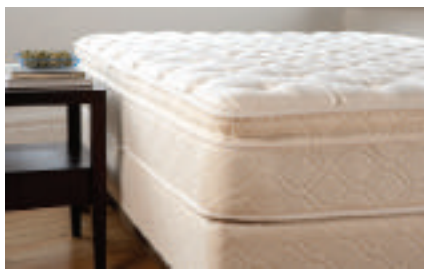

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P.E.I. ranked last in energy efficiency report

A report card grading the energy efficiency of Canadian provinces handed P.E.I. a D score, putting the province at the bottom of the pack. The Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance said British Columbia and Manitoba lead the way in Canada. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

U.S. army deserter to appeal deportation

OTTAWA An American who deserted the U.S. Army to protest the Iraq War and who has has been ordered deported back home will file a new appeal in Canada's Federal Court.

Jeremy Hinzman deserted in 2004 when he received orders to go to Iraq. He is the first U.S. deserter in recent years to apply for refugee status in Canada. Immigration authorities determined that he did not face persecution or hardship if he were returned to the United States and told him Wednesday he had until Sept. 23 to leave Canada.

Hinzman's lawyer said the decision on whether he faced hardship did not take into account the effect on his family if he ended up in prison.

In November, the Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear an appeal by Hinzman of determinations, backed in two subsequent court rulings, that he was not a refugee in need of protection.

In the U.S., Hinzman could face a court martial and up to five years in prison.

An estimated 175 to 200 Americans resisting the Iraq conflict are in Canada. **REUTERS**

California **Human trafficking**

FRED PROUSER/REUTERS

Maria Shriver, first lady of California (R) speaks at a discussion titled "Human Trafficking: A Unified Call to Action" as Lourdes Laborin, first lady of Sonora Mexico (L) listens at the Border Governors Conference in Los Angeles on Thursday.

Liberals lead Tories in polls

OTTAWA Canada's opposition Liberals have maintained a one-point lead over the governing Conservatives, according to the latest Harris-Decima popularity poll.

The poll put the Liberals at 33 percent and the Conservatives at 32 percent. The Liberals had 31 percent to the Tories' 30 percent a month earlier. The left-leaning New Democrats stand at 15 percent and the Greens at 6 percent.

The findings contradict results from a survey released earlier this month by rival pollster Ipsos Reid. It found the Conservatives four points ahead of the Liberals. **REUTERS**

U.S. court to rehear Arar case

OTTAWA A U.S. court will rehear a lawsuit it earlier rejected from Canadian Maher Arar, who claims the U.S. government sent him illegally to Syria where he was tortured for a year.

In June, a U.S. appeals court panel ruled 2-1 that the Syrian-born Arar failed to establish that the federal court had jurisdiction to hear his complaint.

Yesterday, the same court issued "an extremely rare" order to rehear the case, without either side requesting it.

The U.S. government admitted last October that the U.S. had mishandled Arar's case but stopped short of an apology. **REUTERS**

News in brief

SASKATCHEWAN After autopsies, the RCMP believe two men discovered dead in a cistern near Quinton, Sask. on Aug. 9 died of drowning.

It's not clear what Henry Sayer of Raymore, Sask. and Leonard Bell of Calgary, both in their 50s, were doing in the uninhabited farmhouse.

Bell's vehicle was found on the property on July 5. When police checked, the only thing they noticed was that the door of the farmhouse had been pried open.

Police returned to the property after Sayer was reported missing on July 31. That's when the two bodies in the cistern were found, police said.

Quinton is about 120 kilometres north of Regina. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

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Centre Service Canada pour jeunes

The Service Canada Centre for Youth in Calgary will be closed as of August 15, 2008.

It was a pleasure to serve you!

We would like to thank the employers who helped local youth find jobs, as well as all the participants who made our summer events such a success.

We look forward to serving the community again next summer.

Le Centre Service Canada pour jeunes de Calgary n'offrira plus ses services à partir du 15 août 2008.

Il a été très agréable de vous servir tout l'été!

Nous tenons à remercier les employeurs qui ont aidé les jeunes en leur offrant un emploi et tous les participants qui ont contribué au succès de nos activités.

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Skin creams cause tumours on mice, study shows
Certain commonly available skin creams may cause skin tumours, at least in mice, and experts should be checking to see if they might cause growths in people as well, researchers reported yesterday. REUTERS

World

Taiwan accepts pandas

Taiwan has finally approved the import of two giant pandas from China named Yuan Yuan and Tuan Tuan, overcoming suspicions that delayed their arrival by two years. China has vowed to bring Taiwan under its rule, and offered the pandas as a gesture of zoological diplomacy — their names, said together, mean "unite." REUTERS

States want autonomy

Georgia's Russia-backed rebel regions toughened their push for independence yesterday, ruling out talks with Tbilisi following a week-long conflict between Russia and Georgia.

Eduard Kokoity and Sergei Bagapsh, self-styled presidents of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, flew to Moscow in a surprise visit to thank the Kremlin for its support during the conflict and seek Moscow's guarantees in their drive for independence.

Georgia sent troops to South Ossetia a week ago to regain control over the region but Moscow crushed Georgian forces five days later, drawing condemnation from the West.

Earlier at the Kremlin, Medvedev said Russia supported the two regions' position in talks on their future status but did not explicitly say Russia would recognise their independence. REUTERS

Uncanny guess

• The outbreak of war between Georgia and Russia shocked most of the world, but Geoff Smith, a Kiev-based analyst for Renaissance Capital investment bank, anticipated the Georgian conflict in an e-mail to a fellow strategist two days before it began.

Trafficking **Shriver takes stage**

FRED PROUSER/REUTERS

Maria Shriver, first lady of California, speaks at a discussion titled Human Trafficking: A Unified Call to Action, as Lourdes Laborin, first lady of Sonora Mexico, listens at the Border Governors Conference in Los Angeles yesterday.

Clinton's name on roll call

POLITICS Hillary Clinton will be symbolically put forward as a presidential candidate at the Democratic convention later this month in Denver, even though she narrowly lost the nominating battle to Barack Obama.

Obama insisted that Clinton's name be placed in nomination, the campaigns said in a joint statement. REUTERS

Saudis ruled immune from Sept. 11 lawsuit

RULING The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, four princes and other Saudi entities are immune from a lawsuit filed by victims of the Sept. 11 attacks and their families alleging they gave material support to al-Qaida, a federal appeals court ruled yesterday.

The ruling upheld a 2006 decision dismissing a claim against Saudi Arabia, a Saudi charity, four princes and a Saudi banker.

The victims and their families argued that because the defendants gave money to Muslim charities that in turn gave money to al-Qaida, they should be held responsible for helping to finance the attacks.

The appeals court found that the defendants are protected under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act. REUTERS

News in brief

WAR CRIMES The family of ex-Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic could face prosecution for helping him avoid arrest on war crimes charges for 11 years, a top international official said yesterday.

LAYOFFS Gannett Co. Inc. plans to eliminate 1,000 positions from its newspapers around the U.S. because of declining advertising and circulation revenue, and may cut more if those conditions persist. The cuts equal about 3 per cent of the positions in its Community Publishing unit. REUTERS

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Cherif Medawar
International Investor & Authority on Commercial Real Estate

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Cherif Medawar, Founder,
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My education at UCLA taught me how to work for money, but not how to make my money work for me. I was working night and day as a hotel manager in California when a billionaire guest pulled me aside and said, "Cherif, come work for me. I will show you the path to wealth."

I learned how to acquire properties, how real estate deals are structured, and how billions are made. On a much smaller scale, I also began to buy my own properties and develop a personal system for creating wealth.

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New antibody drug helps cells kill blood cancer
A new kind of antibody drug, Micromet Inc.'s experimental drug blinatumomab, that makes the body's own "killer" T-cells fight tumours has produced promising early-stage results in patients with previously incurable non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. REUTERS

Poland agrees to host U.S. missiles

SHIELD Poland agreed yesterday to host elements of the U.S. global anti-missile shield system after Washington improved the terms of the deal. Prime Minister Donald Tusk had been holding out for enhanced military cooperation. REUTERS

News in brief

HOSTAGES Nigeria's most prominent militant group, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, yesterday rescued two German hostages seized by an armed gang, an unprecedented intervention by a group that has wrought havoc on the oil sector. REUTERS

A-level Students get results

DARREN STAPLES/REUTERS

Lizzie Antrobus, left, and Maral Rouhani react after receiving their A-level exam results in Manchester, northern England, yesterday. Thousands of sixth-form pupils received their A-level results, with forecasts of a new record pass rate set to lead to tough competition for university places.

Singer sues McCain over song

Singer-songwriter Jackson Browne is suing Republican presidential nominee John McCain and the Republican party for using his song Running on Empty in a recent TV commercial.

In the suit, filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, Browne claims McCain and the party did not obtain permission to use the song for an ad in which "Senator McCain and the Republicans mock Democratic candidate for president Barack Obama for suggesting that the country conserve gas through proper tire inflation."

Browne, a lifelong Democrat, is seeking unspecified damages as well as a permanent injunction prohibiting the use of Running on Empty in any form by the McCain campaign.

"Senator McCain and his agents plainly infringed Mr. Browne's copyright."
Lawyer Lawrence Iser

"Not only have Senator McCain and his agents plainly infringed Mr. Browne's copyright in Running on Empty, but the federal courts have long held that the unauthorized use of a famous singer's voice in a commercial constitutes a false endorsement and a violation of the singer's right of publicity," Lawrence Iser, Browne's lawyer, said. REUTERS

Musharraf to quit as president?

IMPEACH Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf will resign rather than face impeachment by parliament, the Financial Times said on its web site, citing government officials and a member of his circle.

The paper quoted an unidentified senior Pakistani government member as saying a deal had been brokered between Musharraf and members of the newly elected coalition government. REUTERS

Housing boom threatens bears

MEXICO More than 30 American black bears have been sighted around Monterrey in northern Mexico since April, some in gardens trying to drink from swimming pools and others in schools and on building sites as they seek food and water.

A housing boom in Mexico's richest city risks destroying the officially endangered bears' habitats in the surrounding forested mountains, environmentalists say. REUTERS

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Tough times fail to slow cosmetics sales

Like Revlon and Avon Products, Estee Lauder Cos and Elizabeth Arden reported quarterly profits that met or topped Wall Street estimates, demonstrating that tough times do not cause women to cut back on make-up, skin creams and perfumes. **REUTERS**

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Tesco **Stepping into India**

PUNIT PARANJPE/REUTERS

Tesco PLC Director for Asia and Europe Philip Clarke speaks during a news conference in Mumbai yesterday. Tesco, the world's No.3 retailer, plans to set up shop in India with a wholesale cash-and-carry business and a deal to help Indian conglomerate Tata Group grow its hypermarket business.

Reward costs hit Aeroplan profit

LOYALTY Second-quarter profit at Groupe Aeroplan fell 36 per cent as its cost of rewards and other expenses rose, the consumer loyalty program operator said yesterday. Aeroplan, best known as Air Canada's frequent flier program operator, earned $31.5 million, down from year-earlier $49.5 million. **REUTERS**

Housing prices cool

Canadian average home prices have fallen for the second straight month in a row, raising concern by economists that the housing market may have been caught in the undertow of a U.S. based recession.

Home prices nationally fell by a significant 3.6 per cent to $327,020, from year ago levels in July, according to figures released by the Canadian Real Estate Association yesterday.

In June, prices fell by 0.4 per cent, the first time the market recorded a decrease in nearly a decade.

"We had a small drop the month before, but this looks like the real thing. We hope it's not the beginning of an accelerating trend," said TD Securities Economics Strategist Millan Mulraine.

"We had a small drop the month before, but this looks like the real thing."
Millan Mulraine

The bulk of the declines were in the western provinces, with cities such as Calgary down by 7.8 per cent, Edmonton 5.3 per cent and Vancouver 1 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Chip problems on iPhone: Report

COMPLAINTS An Infineon chip could be at the root of complaints that Apple Inc.'s new iPhone drops calls and has unpredictable Internet links, according to Nomura. **REUTERS**

Plutonic, GE team up on hydro bid

PROJECT Plutonic Power has teamed up with General Electric's energy financing arm to bid on a $4 billion hydro project in British Columbia's Bute Inlet development. **REUTERS**

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Equestrian
Toronto's Ashley Holzer placed 19th in the individual dressage competition yesterday with a score of 67.042 to qualify for the next round. No other Canadians moved on. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beijing Games

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Pierse breaks Canadian mark

SWIMMING Edmonton's Annamay Pierse broke the Canadian record in the women's 200-metre breaststroke final early this morning in Beijing in a time of 2:23.77, but she finished sixth.

American Rebecca Soni broke the world record in a time of 2:20.22 en route to an upset of Australia's Leisel Jones, who won the 100-metre race earlier in the week, for the gold. Norway's Sara Nordenstam picked up the bronze.

Bolt, Powell, Gay breeze in heats

ATHLETICS World record holder Usain Bolt barely broke sweat despite sweltering temperatures to cruise through the Olympic 100 metres heats along with compatriot Asafa Powell and world champion Tyson Gay early this morning in Beijing.

Jamaican Bolt won his heat in 10.20 seconds, while Powell ran 10.16 and American Gay in 10.22. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Medal count

Rank	Nation				Total
#1	China	22	8	5	35
#2	U.S.	10	9	15	34
#3	South Korea	6	7	3	16
#4	Australia	5	4	7	16
#5	France	2	8	5	15
#6	Russia	3	8	3	14
#7	Italy	6	4	3	13
#8	Germany	7	2	3	12
#9	Japan	5	3	3	11
#10	Britain	2	2	3	7
#11	Netherlands	1	2	4	7
#12	North Korea	1	2	4	7
#13	Cuba	1	3	2	6
	Canada	0	0	0	0

(Count at the end of Day 6)

Sizzling sixth gold for phenom Phelps

American just one short of Spitz's mark

Michael Phelps moved within reach of his goal of winning eight gold medals at the Beijing Olympics when he won his sixth early this morning with another world record, his sixth in a week.

The seemingly-invincible American stormed to victory in the 200-metre individual medley final, equalling his golden haul from Athens four years ago and leaving him just one short of matching Mark Spitz's record of seven golds in Munich in 1972.

Phelps led all the way to touch the wall first in one minute 54.23 seconds, 0.57 inside his previous record of 1:54.80 set at last month's U.S. Olympic trials, beating Hungary's Laszlo Cseh and teammate Ryan Lochte.

Keith Beavers of Orangeville, Ont., placed seventh in a time of 1:59.43.

The 23-year-old Phelps had earlier won the 400 individual medley, 4x100 freestyle relay, 200 freestyle, 4x200 freestyle relay and 200 butterfly.

"I just wanted to step on it in the first 50 a little bit and try and get out to an early lead," said Phelps. "I knew in the first half if I got a big enough lead I though I could hang on and that's all I wanted to do."

Cseh won his third silver medal behind Phelps this week, while Lochte grabbed the bronze despite diving back into the pool half an hour after he broke the 200-metre backstroke world record to win his first individual gold.

Lochte wiped 0.38 off the record he shared with his teammate Aaron Peirsol when he surged away on the last length to win in 1:53.94. Peirsol held on for the silver while the bronze went to Russian Arkady Vyatchanin.

Germany's Britta Steffen won the women's 100 freestyle final by a fingertip from Australia's world record holder Libby Trickett.

Steffen, who held the world record for nearly two years until Trickett snatched it in March, overhauled the Australian on the last stroke to win gold in 53.12 with Trickett just 0.04 behind and American Natalie Coughlin third.

REUTERS

WOLFGANG RATTAY/REUTERS

Michael Phelps of the U.S. set his sixth world record at the Beijng Games early this morning in the men's 200-metre individual medley final at the National Aquatics Centre.

Cuban bats booming against Canada on stormy day

BASEBALL Cuban bats were booming on a stormy day at the Olympic baseball tournament, Alexander Malleta and Alfredo Despaigne smacking two-run homers to lift the defending gold medallists to a 7-6 win over Canada yesterday.

Earlier, it was ferocious storms providing the thunder at Wukesong Field as rains swept across the Olympic city, interrupting play and forcing the postponement of one game.

Canada produced fireworks of their own, Nick Weglarz slamming a pair of homers and Michael Saunders adding a two-run shot to power them to a 5-3 sixth-inning lead.

But Cuba hit back in the bottom of the inning with two-run blasts from Despaigne and Malleta to go in front and leave the three-time Olympic champions unbeaten and on course for another gold medal.

"It was a missed opportunity," Canadian coach Terry Puhl said. "But we can't let our intensity level drop because of a tough loss and I don't think we will."

Saunders

Japan rebounded from a tough loss to Cuba in their opener to beat Taiwan 6-1 and level their record at 1-1.

Taiwan had battled Japan into the ninth inning and were in position to pull off the upset until the World Baseball Classic winners exploded for four runs in their final at bat to clinch the victory.

The United States fought through two rain delays to sink the Netherlands 7-0 and collect their first Olympic baseball win since taking gold at the Sydney Games.

The U.S. failed to qualify a team for the Athens Games and suffered a heart-breaking 8-7 loss to South Korea in their Beijing opener on Wednesday.

But the Americans revived their medal hopes with a rain-shortened eight-inning victory highlighted by a sparkling pitching performance from Stephen Strasburg and a three-run homer by Matt LaPorta.

REUTERS

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Wrestling
Swedish 84-kg wrestler Ara Abrahamian took off his greco-roman bronze medal on the podium and threw it down in protest yesterday after his bid for Olympic gold was ended by a decision denounced by the Swedish coach as "politics". REUTERS

Beijing Games

Bling-bling is the thing

Expert believes cash would help Canada reach podium

YorkReport

Marty York
marty.york@metronews.ca

So the question, essentially, is whether Ontarian Mike Brown would not have fallen 9/100ths of a second short of a bronze medal at the Olympics had he received more funding for training before splashing into the pool in Beijing?

The answer, essentially, is: Who knows?

Jane Roos believes she does. The founder a decade ago of a charity devoted to raising funds for Canada's Olympians — check out www.canadianathletes-now.ca — Roos knows what our athletes have done behind the scenes to make ends meet and pursue their dreams simultaneously. She knows how they train. And strain. And drain their brains.

And she insists that, under the circumstances, they're faring well in China. Medals or not.

"Considering their lack of financial support," she says, "they're doing great.

"Take Mike Brown. He finished fourth (in the 200-metre breaststroke). Many of us couldn't finish fourth in anything on our street, let alone in world-class swimming. Mike sent me an email right after the race. He basically told me he was proud and sad at the same time. But there's no way he should be sad."

And he wouldn't be, Roos reckons, if he'd received more money for pre-Olympic training.

"I think a more elite training system would have enabled Mike to win a medal," Roos says. "Very few of our athletes can train as, say, the Americans do. In Canada, athletes get some funding from the government, about $1,500 a year. And then our organization raises enough to give athletes $12,000 a year. We've raised $7-million for them in 10 years. We're proud of that, but it's not enough. Nobody wants to hear our athletes complain, but they're unable to legitimately compete against the Americans, who get millions and millions from private corporations. Canadian corporations say in expensive commercials they take care of our athletes, but do they?

"Considering their lack of financial support, (Canadian athletes are) doing great."
Jane Roos

"Our corporations can do much better. So could our government."

Canadians such as Toronto businessman Jeff Fr-ketich argue against tax dollars for Olympians.

"Why care about how many medals Canada wins?" he asked in an email he sent me yesterday. "Lack of funding hampers our athletes. So should we spend hundreds of millions so we can win a medal in field hockey? Badminton? Synchronized diving? Please. We have some real problems in this country that need the money."

Roos agrees, but only partly.

"We have problems, yes," she says, "but Canada has enough resources to address them and also help our athletes. We need excellence on a world stage. We get depressed when we don't win medals and we need to focus on making dreams come true."

The debate, of course, shall continue.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Federer, Williamses bounced in Beijing

TENNIS Three of the biggest names in tennis, Roger Federer and sisters Venus and Serena Williams, crashed out at the quarter-final stage of the Olympics in a night of shocks yesterday.

Serena

Federer's nightmare year plumbed new depths when he lost to American James Blake, a player he had beaten in all eight of their previous meetings.

The Swiss top seed's game went totally haywire against Blake and he lost 6-4, 7-6.

With news of Federer's shock defeat reverberating around the Olympic tennis complex, Serena Williams became the second of the night's big casualties when she lost to Russian fifth seed Elena Dementieva 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Home favourite Li Na then stole the show, out-hitting double Olympic champion Venus Williams in a sensational 7-5, 7-5 victory that sparked noisy celebrations on Centre Court.

"Wow! You can't see this kind of crowd anywhere else. It helped me and pushed me a lot," said Li, the world No. 42 but a one-time member of the top 20 club. REUTERS

Dream Team trounces Greece

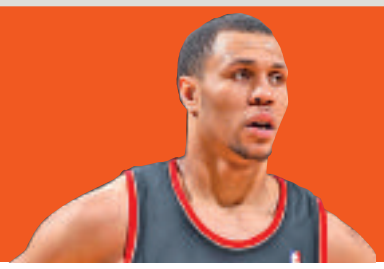
BASKETBALL The United States men's team booked a quarter-final place yesterday with a 92-69 win over Greece featuring a dizzying array of acrobatic dunks from Kobe Bryant and LeBron James.

Bryant scored 18 points, while James chipped in with 13 as the Americans gained a measure of revenge for a semifinal defeat by the Greeks in the 2006 world championships. REUTERS

Flyers, coach agree on extension

The Philadelphia Flyers reached an agreement with head coach John Stevens on a two-year contract extension yesterday. Since his hiring on October 22, 2006, the Campbellton, N.B., native has compiled a 63-71-22 mark in 156 games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Roy's surgery successful

Portland Trail Blazers guard Brandon Roy, left, underwent successful arthroscopic surgery yesterday to repair a meniscus tear in his left knee. The All-Star from the University of Washington learned of the injury following an MRI on Tuesday and is expected to be sidelined four-to-eight weeks.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Bills best Steelers

Bills 24 Steelers 21

In a perfect world, everyone who comes out to the Bills in Toronto series over the next five years would be like Simon Doyle.

He's a patriotic Canadian who loves the CFL, but who drove down from Ottawa with a friend to watch the Buffalo Bills play the Pittsburgh Steelers at the Rogers Centre.

Doyle purchased a ticket package giving him two seats to each of the Bills' first three games in Toronto, and even before last night's game kicked off, he said it was worth every cent of the $1,800 he paid.

"This is the NFL. It's the biggest stage."
Simon Doyle

"I know I don't come see the Argos, but that's not my team. This is the NFL. It's the biggest stage."

But the Bills and Steelers didn't play last night's pre-season game in a perfect world.

Instead the game — which, for the record, ended in a 24-21 Bills win — took place in the real world, where 48,434 Canadian fans embraced the NFL's latest venture north of the border.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sports in brief

NFL Adam "Pacman" Jones, the Dallas Cowboys' suspended cornerback, said yesterday he's sent a letter to the NFL commissioner asking to be allowed to play this season, TSN.ca reports. Jones hasn't played in the NFL since Dec. 31, 2006.

MLB Edgar Renteria hit a two-run double as part of a five-run eighth inning to lift the Detroit Tigers to a 5-1 win over the Toronto Blue Jays to avoid a sweep in the last of a four-game set at Detroit's Comerica Park.

NHL The Pittsburgh Penguins broke ground on their new arena yesterday. The new multi-purpose facility, which is located beside Mellon Arena, is slated to open in time for the 2010-11 season.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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ETIENNE RANGER/FOR METRO CANADA

Paula Creamer, former LPGA Rookie of the Year, shot a 1-under 71 at the CN Canadian Women's Open yesterday, and sits four strokes off the lead heading into the second round.

Ochoa on top at Canadian Open

GOLF Defending champion Lorena Ochoa birdied her final hole for a 6-under-par 66 and took a one-stroke lead over world No. 2 Annika Sorenstam yesterday in the first round of the 2008 CN Canadian Women's Open at the Ottawa Hunt and Gold Club.

Sorenstam won the inaugural CN Canadian Women's Open in 2001 at Angus Glen Golf Club in Markham, Ont., but has not made it back to Canada to defend her title, as the annual contest has overlapped the Ladies European Tour's Scandinavian TPC, an event where Sorenstam plays host.

Alena Sharp carded a 1-under-par 71 to emerge as the frontrunner in a pack of 16 Canadians in this week's field.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit 5 Toronto 1
Chicago White Sox 9 Kansas City 2
Tampa Bay 7 Oakland 6
Boston 10 Texas 0
Baltimore 11 Cleveland 6

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Houston 7 San Francisco 4
Arizona 6 Colorado 2
San Diego 3 Milwaukee 2
Cincinnati 3 Pittsburgh 1
N.Y. Mets 9 Washington 3
St. Louis 3 Florida 0
Chicago Cubs 11 Atlanta 7
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers

TONIGHT'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto at Boston, 5:05
Baltimore at Detroit, 5:05
Kansas City at N.Y. Yankees, 5:05
L.A. Angels at Cleveland, 5:05
Tampa Bay at Texas, 6:05
Seattle at Minnesota, 6:10
Chicago White Sox at Oakland, 8:05

NATIONAL LEAGUE

N.Y. Mets at Pittsburgh, 5:05
Chicago Cubs at Florida, 5:10
St. Louis at Cincinnati, 5:10
San Francisco at Atlanta, 5:35
Colorado at Washington, 5:35
Arizona at Houston, 6:05
Philadelphia at San Diego, 8:05
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers, 8:40

CFL

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Saskatchewan	6	1	0	12
EDMONTON	4	3	0	8
Calgary	4	3	0	8
B.C.	4	3	0	8

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	4	3	0	8
Toronto	3	4	0	6
Hamilton	2	6	0	4
Winnipeg	2	6	0	4

WEEK 8

LAST NIGHT'S RESULT

Winnipeg 37 Hamilton 24

TONIGHT'S GAME

Montreal at Toronto, 5:30

BASEBALL

GOLDEN BASEBALL LEAGUE GAMES FEATURING THE CALGARY VIPERS:

LAST NIGHT'S GAME

CALGARY at Long Beach

TONIGHT'S GAME

CALGARY at Orange Cty

McCabe to Panthers, report says

NHL Bryan McCabe's days as a Maple Leaf are likely numbered — at about 17.

But even as Canada's major sports networks posted updates yesterday reporting a pending trade that would send the defenceman to the Florida Panthers after Sept.1, the Leafs' general manager and McCabe's agent both denied such a deal was tentatively in place.

They both acknowledged they are working towards some sort of compromise, one that may see the much-maligned defenceman waive the no-movement clause of his contract in order to dealt out of Toronto.

But both said nothing is complete.

"(McCabe) hasn't even said he would accept being traded yet. We're working on it," said Cliff Fletcher, Toronto's general manager.

Both TSN and Sportsnet, citing sources, yesterday posted reports that a deal in principle is in place that will send McCabe to Florida once Sept. 1 has passed.

TSN said the players had been agreed upon and another Toronto player would likely be moving with McCabe to the Panthers with the Leafs getting at least one player back.

Bryan McCabe

Sportsnet reported as part of the deal, Toronto will receive Panthers' defenceman Mike Van Ryn.

If the Sportsnet scenario is correct, Toronto will free up almost $3 million in cap space.

TSN set to launch second channel

TV Canadians are getting another sports channel, though it will look a lot like one of the existing ones.

TSN announced today that it is launching TSN2, a digital channel that will air much of the channel's sports properties that often don't make it to air or are tape-delayed.

The channel is scheduled to start broadcasting on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

music Pg 26

Beijing rock scene may bloom

metro weekend
CALGARY
metronews.ca

7th heaven Pg 29

Fashion's new 'It girl'

Barcelona beauties Pg 20

MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES

Actress Penelope Cruz, left, and actress Scarlett Johansson star in Woody Allen's latest film Vicky Cristina Barcelona, which has the energy, vitality, and themes of a young filmmaker trying to make a name for himself, our reviewer writes.

music Pg 26

Girlicious vow that one day they'll be taken seriously.

feature Pg 20

Rainn Wilson got to let loose in The Rocker role.

review Pg 21

The Clone Wars feels like a 90-minute videogame.

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Movies

Allen makes this European excursion work

Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Director: Woody Allen
Stars: Javier Bardem, Scarlett Johansson, Penelope Cruz
Classification: 14A
Rating:

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

VICTOR BELLO/TWC 2008

Javier Bardem and Scarlett Johansson star in Woody Allen's Vicky Cristina Barcelona.

REVIEW Vicky Cristina Barcelona appears on screens one year shy of the 40th anniversary of Woody Allen's directorial debut Take The Money And Run.

Despite the fact that the director has averaged one film per year since, his latest movie has the energy, vitality, and themes of a young filmmaker trying to make a name for himself. A change of scenery worked wonders for Allen in 2005 when he travelled to London to make Match Point (arguably his greatest drama), and a Spanish setting has proved to be equally inspiring for the 72-year-old filmmaker on this project, which is his finest romantic comedy in years.

Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall star as the titular duo Vicky and Cristina, two lost souls spending a summer in Barcelona.

They meet Juan Antonio (Javier Bardem), an artist who introduces himself by inviting the pair to join him for a weekend of food, wine, and lovemaking.

The girls agree and while Vicky must put aside her feelings for Juan because of an impending marriage, Cristina continues her affair with the artist, which grows more complicated when his ex-wife (Peneope Cruz) returns.

What follows is a breezy, cheerful, and hilarious ode to youthful indiscretions filmed in the burned-out warm colours and unpredictable style of New Mexican Cinema.

Ever the pessimist, Allen refuses to grant his characters a "happily ever after," but the movie still benefits from the most joyful representation of love that Allen has permitted on screen since Dianne Keaton uttered "La-di-da."

Granted, the film suggests that such love is fleeting and must be appreciated before it inevitably disappears, but by Woody's standards that statement is practically a Hallmark card.

Away from his New York setting, Vicky Christina Barcelona certainly doesn't rank among Allen's greatest achievements, but it is his most successful comedy this decade and boasts sensational performances from Bardem and Cruz (whose brief kiss with Johansson has been sadly over publicized).

Hopefully this hit-and-miss four year cinematic excursion to Europe will revitalize Allen when he returns to New York to shoot his upcoming collaboration with Larry David.

Fish out of water, thanks to Rainn

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

BRIAN TOWIE/METRO

Rainn Wilson got nude and sweaty for his role as a drummer in his upcoming movie, The Rocker.

Rainn Wilson enjoyed getting out of The Office for a little while.

The Emmy-nominated and Screen Actors Guild winner got to trade in his role as the authoritarian and socially inept sales rep Dwight Schrute in the NBC sitcom for a shaggy-haired, beer-swilling musician in his new family comedy The Rocker — filmed in part in Toronto.

In the movie directed by Oscar-nominated filmmaker Peter Cattaneo (The Full Monty), Wilson plays Fish, a drummer in a 1980s hair metal group who's ditched by his bandmates just as they're on the cusp of superstardom. He gets a new lease on life, and a chance at the fame he missed out on after a clip of him drumming in the nude for his nephew's band surfaces online. "I'm so used to playing nerdy weirdos," says Wilson, 42.

"So it was a fun challenge to get out and cut loose for the role of Fish. I didn't really have any specific drummers in mind when I worked out the part, though, because there are so many great ones, and I wanted to create this character that was all flash and no substance.

"Most of my memory from filming this thing was a lot of artificial sweat and a Hallowe'en wig."

The premise sounds like a familiar story involving a certain Fab Four and their former drummer, doesn't it? But the music aficionado — he's a fan of Wilco, Bob Dylan and The National to name a few — insists he never asked Pete Best, arguably the music world's most notorious could-have-been (who makes a cameo in the movie), for insight on what it's like to be the one left behind.

"No, I didn't take any tips from him, but it was very cool to meet him," says Wilson. "I was really nervous about it, actually."

So with The Rocker in the can, Wilson's looking forward to the 3-D feature Transformers II: Revenge of The Fallen, slated for release next June. Online reports say the actor will make a cameo as a university professor, but Wilson's pretty tight-lipped about it himself. He will offer this little nugget of information, however:

"I get to kill Shia LeBeouf," he laughs.

"It's going to be pretty awesome, because that annoying little jerk has it coming."

Amal an inspiring tale of the nice guy

Amal

Director: Richie Mehta
Stars: Rupinder Nagra
Classification: 14A
Rating:

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada

REVIEW Amal, the gentle auto-rickshaw driver at the centre of Mehta's critically acclaimed film, could never have played for baseball manager Leo Durocher. Durocher once reportedly said that nice guys finish last. But what if the nice guy doesn't even consider it a competition?

Amal, portrayed by Hamilton-raised actor Rupinder Nagra, leads an honest, unfettered life.

There's family, work.

That's it.

In the bustling Indian city of New Delhi, surrounded by characters obsessed with money, Amal is as ambitious as a nap — and just as peaceful. Mehta brings these worlds together, and he does so without resorting to the usual fish-out-of-water clichés.

Nagra's performance is all restraint and subtlety. He says much more with his eyes and facial expressions than he does when he speaks.

An interesting subtext here is the conflict between the old ways and the ever-forward march of technology: Amal's livelihood is being threatened by a new subway. And although the lush scenery of New Delhi is integral to the film, the story could have been set anywhere.

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movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Anakin Skywalker and his new padawan, Ahsoka, join forces in Star Wars: The Clone Wars.

Just a Star Wars clone

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Star Wars: **The Clone Wars**

Director: Dave Filoni
Stars: Matt Lanter, Ashley Eckstein
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●

REVIEW In my humble opinion, we need another Stars Wars movie like Jabba the Hutt's waistline needs another Klatooine paddy frog.

If you understood that reference, chances are you don't agree with me and in fact, you're probably quite giddy to see Star Wars: The Clone Wars.

Set sometime between Episode II and III, The Clone Wars sticks Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Yoda in the middle of an intergalactic civil war between the good clones and the evil Imperial droids.

There, Skywalker is paired up with a wiry, young Jedi apprentice named Ahsoka Tano and the duo must rescue Jabba the Hutt's slimy little kidnapped son.

In reality, this movie kicks-off a new animated series of the same name, and although it makes a great way to launch a TV show, it also highlights where this film truly belongs.

Sure, it's an interesting combination of traditional animation, CGI and anime (specifically during battle scenes), but the story itself is about as compelling as watching somebody play a videogame for 90 minutes.

Difficult to follow at first, the movie is also hampered by flat, uninspired dialogue.

Worse yet, unable to recruit most of the actors from the films, producers were left with cheap vocal substitutes that seemingly stand to set the film up to be what it is: An imitation of the real thing.

When it seems a legacy like Star Wars would be so unimpeachable, it makes you wonder why George Lucas would allow such a (pardon the pun) clone into the world.

Bottle Shock mere happy pap

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

Alan Rickman, centre, stars in Bottle Shock.

Bottle **Shock**

Director: Randall Miller
Stars: Alan Rickman, Bill Pullman
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●

REVIEW Aside from a scene in which an anxious Bill Pullman obliterates the top of a bottle of wine with a samurai sword (his kingdom for a corkscrew!) there are no surprises in Bottle Shock.

This is partially because its story — about a group of affable, flannel-clad Napa Valley winemakers who turn the industry on its snooty French nose by producing a top-shelf Chardonnay — is based in fact: In 1973, the California-based Chateau Montelana won a French tasting contest and made the marketplace safe for American plonk.

It's also because director Randall Miller never met a reaction shot or an overbearing music cue that he couldn't use: Bottle Shock is perfectly content to be pap.

The material is interesting — especially after Jonathan Nossiter's epic wine doc Mondovino, which surveyed the fallout of the U.S. becoming a wine power — but the details are hackneyed.

We get a perfectionist vintner father (Pullman) who tries to straighten out his layabout son (Chris Pine); an attractive blonde intern (Rachael Taylor) splits her affections between said handsome layabout and his golden-palated, fetchingly dorky Latino pal (Freddy Rodriguez); meanwhile, a sassy local barmaid (Eliza Dushku) doles out wisdom and dues ex machinas.

The only performer to rise above the dully crowd-pleasing atmosphere is Alan Rickman as the Paris wine shop owner who puts the tasting contest in motion.

It's amusing to watch this impeccable actor play something of a sad sack, and a quick bit where he battles with a bothersome restaurant door is a master-class of strenuously maintained dignity.

Stuck a fascinating glimpse at ethics of human nature

Stuck

Director: Stuart Gordon
Stars: Mena Suvari, Stephen Rea
Classification: 18A
Rating: ●●●½

STEVE GOW
For Metro Canada

Mena Suvari is compelling as a careless nurse's aide.

"Suvari captures an essence of desperation that turns demonic."

REVIEW Albert Einstein once said "reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one." Nowhere is this perhaps better exemplified than in the film Stuck.

Based on a bizarre true story, Mena Suvari (Factory Girl) plays Brandi, a seemingly compassionate nurse's aide on the verge of a promotion.

Prematurely celebrating her advancement, Brandi gets bombed on booze and pills and decides to drive home.

After she barrels down a homeless man (Stephen Rea of V for Vendetta) — pinning him in the windshield — she continues home and parks the car.

Now, if you're snickering, that's OK — dark as it is, this movie embraces moments of strange levity. How else do you deal with such a tragically outlandish true story?

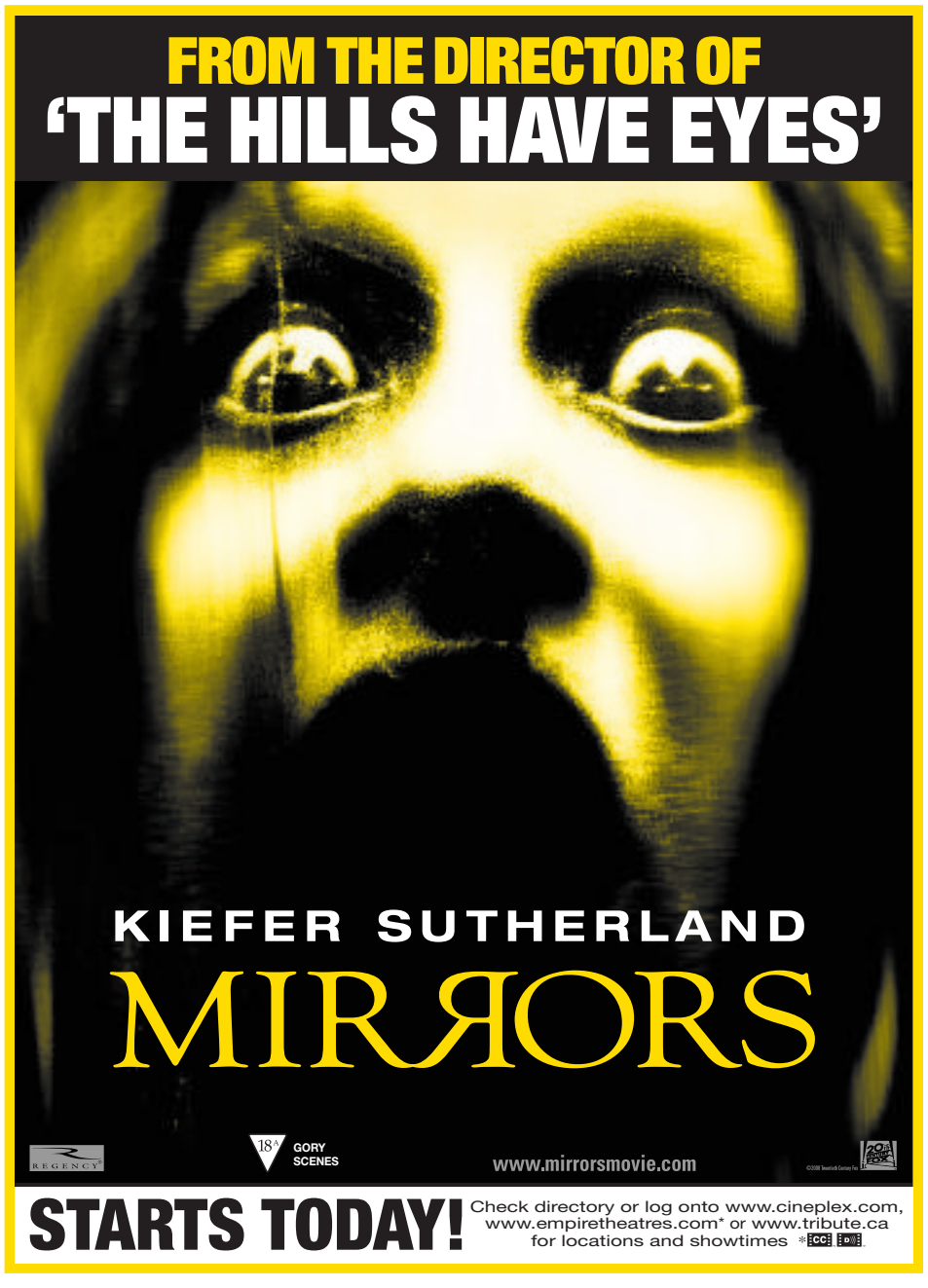
But this thriller is also a fascinating serious glimpse at the twisted ethics of human nature.

After all, in the film (as in real life), the character of Brandi has sex with her boyfriend while the victim is slowly dying in her garage.

Talk about denial!

The performances are compelling — Suvari, in particular, captures an essence of desperation that turns demonic by the film's end. After all, this is a horror story.

Filmed in New Brunswick, watch for cameos by familiar faces such as John Dunsworth (aka Mr. Lahey from Trailer Park Boys).



Reel Times

Bunny on the money: Faris plays Playmate

STEVE GOW
For Metro Canada

For most serious thespians, playing a bubble-headed nudie model whose greatest aspiration is to become a Playboy Playmate is probably not high on their to-do list. Anna Faris however, is not your average thespian.

Blasting onto the Hollywood scene in 2000 with her ditzy lead role in Scary Movie, Faris has slowly gained notoriety playing "the wacky blonde" in shticky comedies like The Hot Chick and Just Friends.

"I wasn't getting the chance to play the roles I really wanted to," Faris revealed recently in L.A. while promoting The House Bunny (opening next Friday).

"This felt like, oh, so maybe I can do this and maybe I can continue to do this, which would be amazing."

MELINDA SUE GORDON SMPSP/FOR METRO CANADA

Anna Faris stars in The House Bunny, which opens next Friday.

What she's referring to likely doesn't have so much to do with playing a scantily-clad model as it does with getting a movie made in the dog-eat-dog world of Hollywood.

See, Faris not only stars in The House Bunny, but she's an executive producer on the film having conceived the idea about a Playmate who gets kicked out of living in Hugh Hefner's mansion because of her age.

Desperate for shelter, she ends up a housemother to a nerdy group of sorority girls. "I think that it's more about finding her family and that she realizes that she doesn't belong in that world anymore," says Faris about the Playboy aspirations.

"(But I also) don't think it's necessarily a judgment against that world."

Co-star Emma Stone would agree. In fact, she insists that Faris is the root of the movie's honesty.

"What Anna brought to the role was someone (our characters) could relate to from the outside," admits the young actress.

"It was so important that someone like Anna, or just Anna, played this role because her likeability and her heart shines through the whole thing."

Still, while the film does have heart and even contains a strong message about individuality, don't think that Anna Faris wasn't also attracted to hanging out at the Playboy Mansion and dressing up in skimpy, sexy outfits — a notion that certainly didn't impress everyone.

"When I floated the idea past my mom, who's pretty conservative, she was like, 'You're doing what?'" laughs Faris in hindsight. "Now, of course, she's like, 'I'm so proud of you.'"

Newsweek
DAVID ANSEN
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Wilson takes them as they come

RAF BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Luke Wilson's latest film Henry Poole is Here opens this weekend.

Luke Wilson has made a career playing the average Joe and, for the most part, he happily admits art imitates life. Unlike some actors who careen in and out of the spotlight, Wilson has always stepped back quietly into his own space, doing projects that interest him and being mostly ignored by the tabloids. It's all fine by Wilson, who is absolutely happy to keep being normal. "I feel like I'm just a fairly regular guy. I'm kind of a chronic channel-surfer and I'm a big golf fan," he said.

In his newest film, Henry Poole is Here, Wilson gives a performance much more in the dramatic vein than fans of blockbusters like Old School or cult hits like Rushmore and Idiocracy might be used to, but he insists it's not part of any secret plan to dive head-first into drama.

If anything, doing drama is just another part of his philosophy to take things as they come and do projects that are as interesting as possible.

"I feel it's a bit out of my control what comes my way so I don't actively search things out. At the end of my career I'd like to think I'll have a large range of work," Wilson said.

While some actors try a myriad of tricks to get into character, Wilson doesn't employ any single technique to put himself mentally and emotionally into a scene. Instead, he prefers to rely on his instincts to discover the truth of a character or scene and trust in his ability to capture the essence of the moment.

"I admire those people like Gary Oldman who can totally transform themselves, but I don't really have a method to get into a certain place — I just hope that in the moment I'll be able to just get it," he said.

One of the great treats of doing the film was the chance to work with Adriana Barazza, the scene-stealing Mexican actress best known for her Academy Award nominated supporting role in Babel.

"I just really enjoyed working with her. She's one of those people about who you think, 'This person is so good, they make me better,'" Wilson said.

With another film already in the pipeline and his own script adaptation of Jim Lehrer's novel White Widow in the works, Wilson is doing what makes him feel most normal of all: Keeping busy. "You gotta do something. You gotta keep shedding skin," he said.

Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Brooks a playful sendup

JIM REYNO
jim.reyno@metronews.ca

PHOTO CREDIT

Trevor Matthews stars as Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer.

Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer

Director: Jon Knautz
Stars: Trevor Matthews, Rachel Skarsten
Classification: 18A
Rating:

REVIEW Be honest: You love to watch something that deserves to get schmucked actually get schmucked. And when the schmucking is being done by a charismatic, everyday person like yourself, it's all the more satisfying.

That's Jack Brooks: Monster Schmucker. Slayer.

Ottawa director Jon Knautz is a self-confessed '80s horror-movie fanatic, fun flicks that combined thrills with laughs. Jack Brooks is a playful sendup of that genre. If you enjoy those movies, you'll enjoy this.

Trevor Matthews stars as Jack, and convinces as an anger-unmanaged plumber cum monster slayer. He's a natural on camera, easy to watch like your buddy at the neighbourhood pub is easy to talk to.

Knautz, who also co-wrote the screenplay with John Ainslie, effectively takes some time to develop Jack's character. It adds depth to the story, moving the film beyond being just a gorefest. This may frustrate those in the theatre anxious for some monster slaying. But be patient — you can have both.

Rachel Skarsten is Jack's screechy girlfriend, and she delivers a frantic, hilarious performance. Unfortunately, her character isn't as well developed as Jack and seems one-dimensional by comparison.

Veteran actor Robert Englund, best known as Freddy Krueger from the Nightmare on Elm Street movies, looks as if he enjoyed himself in this film's slapstick scenes.

If you're looking for a groundbreaking spin on the horror-humour genre, Jack Brooks isn't it. But it's a fun ride with solid performances throughout. The movie opens on Friday.

Henry Poole is Here is dull, not too deep

RAF BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Henry Poole Is Here

Director: Mark Pellington
Stars: Luke Wilson, Radha Mitchell
Classification: PG
Rating:

REVIEW As story-driven films go, Henry Poole is Here is just not all there.

While the film has a few good moments based on the strength of the two main performances, it lacks the kind of depth a tear-dribbler requires.

Henry, played by Luke Wilson, is a couch-zombie about to implode from his own self-loathing. Henry seems like the stereotypical male bachelor, were it not for one critical wrench in the gears: He's dying.

What from? Who knows? What matters is that when a stain appears on his backyard walls, his neighbour (Esperanza, played by Adriana Barazza) believes it's the face of Christ.

She starts to convince the locals that the stain is a miraculous sign from God and atheistic Henry takes every chance to shoo her and the locals away, convinced they are wasting his and their own time.

Along the way, Henry starts a romance with Dawn, played by Radha Mitchell, and befriends a cheerful checkout girl named Patience. Incidentally, Esperanza's name means hope in Spanish. See how this works?

Wilson keeps the film afloat with his portrayal of a man whose wounded exterior crumbles under the weight of the joys he rediscovers in life. Barazza nearly steals the show as the kind-hearted ying to Henry's nihilistic yang but it's not enough to keep the film from feeling like it lacks a real soul.

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Reel Time

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

This time it's jail for Joan

STEVE GOW
For Metro Canada

Joan Allen has been accused of witchcraft in The Crucible and played a vice-presidential nominee in The Contender.

She's even been the wife of a U.S. president in Nixon. Of all things she's been though, the mastermind of a car rally to the death is not one of them.

In Death Race (opening next weekend), the multi-Academy Award nominated actress plays an evil prison warden who sends inmates out to the track to race for their freedom. Deemed the "most twisted spectator sport on Earth," muscle cars are loaded with machine guns to help eliminate competitors.

It's definitely not what you'd expect from the lady who played Pat Nixon.

"I loved Road Warrior, and I thought if this film did what Road Warrior did, I would be thrilled to be part of something like that," Allen enthusiastically said during a recent interview in San Diego.

"I just thought that it was very well written. You get a script, and if you just keep turning the page regardless of what genre it is and you're intrigued and interested and want to know what happens — I think that says a lot, and that's what happened to me with this."

Seeing Allen play such a diabolical character will not only be a new experience for fans, but it was also a departure for Allen.

Joan Allen says she was immediately enthralled with the script for Death Race.

As much as she enjoys making sobering dramas, she's unsure why it's difficult to land more action-oriented parts.

"It's hard to ever know. I think it's difficult for Hollywood to take too big a risk on things because it's not easy to raise money and make films.

"It's more comforting to know, 'Oh, that actor can do this and we know they can do it,'" adds Allen.

"So I felt like they did take a bit of a chance with me on this and I'm grateful for it." Allen won't be holding her breath to become the next action hero, however.

She just wrapped a heartwarming remake of a Japanese drama called Hachiko: A Dog's Story and will soon be returning to Broadway.

And if asked to do a Death Race sequel, even that may come with some demands.

"Get me behind one of those wheels," laughs Allen.

"That would be fun."

Movie morsels

Tropic thunder

½

REVIEW Ben Stiller leads the all-star cast of Jack Black, Robert Downey Jr. and even Tom Cruise (in a surprising role that's sure to relieve those who thought he'd all but beamed up to Planet Thetan) in this spoof of Hollywood egos and icons.

Stiller plays Tugg Speedman, a fleeting action star leading the cast of a fictional war film being shot in Southeast Asia.

But after the movie goes over budget, the actors are sent into the jungle to capture "real fear in their eyes."

Instead, the gang loses their director, get lost themselves and fall prey to real terrorists.

The twist: They're convinced it's all part of the movie. It's a great premise and one that doesn't let down with its cast.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Pants 2

REVIEW Sisterhood 2 explores how four friends — America Ferrera, Blake Lively, Amber Tamblyn and Alexis Bledel — handle increasingly adult responsibilities in their ever-separating lives, all the while struggling to maintain childhood friendships.

At the end of the day, Sisterhood 2 is a big cheer — hooray for the friends as everything works out (of course).

Jim Reyno/Metro Canada

Pineapple Express

½

REVIEW Produced by Judd Apatow and starring Seth Rogen, this film is a Midnight Run-type caper about a dope-smoking process server who goes on the lam with his hapless drug dealer (James Franco) after witnessing a murder.

Pineapple Express still works as an impossibly hip comedy about impossibly uncool characters.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

The Sisterhood of the Traveling

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Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., AUG. 15 TO THURS., AUG. 21. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

CANYON MEADOWS
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail
403-670-5444

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7:10

The Counterfeiters (14A) Fri-Thu 9:40

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri-Thu 12:45

The Happening (14A) Fri-Thu 2:50-4:50-7:30-10

The Incredible Hulk (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-7:15-9:55

Iron Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45

Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-7:05

The Love Guru (14A) Fri-Thu 9:55

Made of Honor (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55-7:20

Meet Dave (PG) Fri-Thu 9:35

Nim's Island (G) Fri-Thu 2:50-5:05-7:20

Sex and the City (18A) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:10-8

Son of Rambow (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45

The Strangers (14A) Fri-Thu 10:05

What Happens in Vegas (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-9:25

You Don't Mess With the Zohan (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:45-9:35

CROWFOOT CROSSING
91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

The Dark Knight (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:25-7-10:15

Hancock (PG) Fri-Tue 2-4:20-6:50-9:35

Henry Poole Is Here (PG) Fri-Mon 1-3:20-7:15-9:45 Tue 3:20-7:15-9:45 Wed-Thu 1-3:20-7:15-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Tue 1

Kung Fu Panda (PG) Fri-Tue 11:50

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:10-9:50

Mirrors (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-7:40-10:30

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3-6:45-9:30

Pineapple Express (18A) Fri-Thu 12:20-4-7:30-10:20

The Rocker (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-3:55-6:50-9:35

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:15-6:40-9:40

Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-3:10-7:20-10

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-7:25-10:05

Swing Vote (PG) Fri-Thu 9:55

Tropic Thunder (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:35-10:25

WALL-E (G) Fri-Thu 12:05-3:40-7:05

EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

American Teen (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:40-9:30

The Dark Knight (PG) Fri-Thu 3-6:30-9:45

Henry Poole Is Here (PG) Fri-Sun 12-3:35-7:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 3:35-7:10-10:05

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:30-7:05-9:50 Mon-Tue 3:30-7:05-9:50 Wed 3:30-9:50 Thu 3:30-7:05-9:50

Pineapple Express (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:50-10 Mon-Thu 3:20-6:50-10

Vicky Cristina Barcelona (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:30-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:30-7-9:40

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (STC) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital, No Passes Wed 7

The Dark Knight (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Tue 12-3:20-6:40-7:50-9:55 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed-Thu 12-3:20-6:40-9:55

Henry Poole Is Here (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:25-3:55-7:40-10:05

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sat 6:45-9:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Sun 9:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 6:45-9:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 9:30

Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D (PG) Digital Presentation, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Digital Presentation, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 12:50-3:10-9:35 Digital Presentation, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Maggie Gyllenhaal stars as Rachel Dawes and Christian Bale stars as Bruce Wayne in The Dark Knight, which is currently in theatres.

Mamma Mia! (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:25-3-7:10-9:50

Mirrors (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-7:35-10:10

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7:15-9:55

Pineapple Express (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital, No Passes Fri 1-1:30-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-9:40-10:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Sat-Thu 1-1:30-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-9:40-10:15

The Rocker (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:30-10:05

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri 12:20-3:05-6:55-9:45 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Sat-Sun 12:20-3:05-6:55-9:45 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon 3:45-6:55-9:45 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Tue-Thu 12:20-3:05-6:55-9:45 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon 1

Space Chimps (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Tue 12:10-2:20

Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:25-12:55-2:55-3:25-7:20-9:50

Step Brothers (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-7:05-9:45

Swing Vote (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 9:30

Tropic Thunder (14A) No Passes, Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:35-3:15-7:25-10

Vicky Cristina Barcelona (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:10-9:35

WALL-E (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:05-2:30-7

WWE: Summerslam (STC) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital, No Passes Sun 5

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Tr., 403-974-0470

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation Wed-Thu 7

The Dark Knight (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:15-3:30-7-10:10

Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation Fri-Tue 2:15-4:30-6:45-9 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation Wed-Thu 2-4:30-9:15

Mamma Mia! (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:30-9:20

Mirrors (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:20-7:30-10:15

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:50-4:20-7:25-9:55 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 4:20-7:25-9:55 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Tue 1:50-4:20-7:25-9:55 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1:50-4:20-9:55 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:50-4:20-7:25-9:55

Opus Arte - Aida (Opera) (STC) Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12

Pineapple Express (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:20-10

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-6:50-9:30

Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4-6:40-9:10

Step Brothers (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:40-4:15-7:15-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:15-7:15-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:40-4:15-7:15-9:40

Tropic Thunder (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:50

WALL-E (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

Bottle Shock (PG) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-3:20-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20

Mongol (14A) Fri 6:55 Sat-Sun 12:55-3:15-6:55 Mon-Thu 6:55

The Wackness (18A) Fri-Thu 9:15

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000

Bachna Ae Haseeno (STC) Fri-Thu 2-6:30-7:30-8:30

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-7:05

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri-Thu 1:05

God Tussi Great Ho (STC) Fri-Thu 4-9

The Happening (14A) Fri-Thu 1-7-10:05

The Incredible Hulk (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-9:50

Iron Man (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:55

Meet Dave (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45

Sex and the City (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-6:45-9:45

Singh Is Kinng (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:30-6:30-9:30

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (STC) Wed-Thu 7

The Dark Knight (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-12:15-3-3:45-6:50-7:20-10:20-10:45

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:30

Get Smart (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:35 Mon 1:20-4:20 Tue 1:20-4:20-7:35 Wed 1:20-4:20 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:35

Hancock (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:25-10:05

Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14A) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:25-7:35-10:35 Sun 1:30-4:25-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:25-7:35-10:35

Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Fri-Tue 12-2:20-4:35-7:05-9:40 Wed-Thu 12-2:20-4:35-9:40

Kung Fu Panda (PG) Fri-Tue 1-4:10

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15

Mirrors (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:40

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:25-10:40

Swing Vote (PG) Fri-Thu 10:15

Tropic Thunder (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:30-10:30

WALL-E (G) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:50-7

Wanted (18A) Fri-Thu 10:10

WWE: Summerslam 2008 (STC) Sun 6

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

The 11th Hour (STC) Sun 4:30

Heathers (STC) Fri-Sat 12

Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer (18A) Fri 9:20 Sat-Sun 2:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 9:20

Stuck (18A) Fri 7:10 Sat 12:30-4:30-7:10 Sun 12:30-7:10 Mon-Thu 7:10

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (STC) Wed-Thu 7

The Dark Knight (PG) Fri-Tue 12-12:25-3:25-3:45-6:45-7:10-10:10-10:30 Wed-Thu 12:25-3:45-7:10-10:30

Hancock (PG) Fri-Sat 12:40-3:15-6:30-9:15 Sun 12:40-3:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:15-6:30-9:15

Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35

Henry Poole Is Here (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3-6:40-9:25

Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Fri-Tue 12:05-2:35-5-7:35-10:05 Wed-Thu 12:05-2:35-5-10:05

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:35-9:20

Mirrors (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-7:15-10:15

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG) Fri-Tue 12:20-3:10-7:30-10:25 Wed-Thu 12-2:50-6:45-9:40

Pineapple Express (18A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-7:25-10:20

The Rocker (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:20-3:10-7:30-10:10

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) Fri-Mon 12:10-3:05-6:50-9:45 Tue 3:55-6:50-9:45 Wed-Thu 12:10-3:05-6:50-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Tue 1

Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35-3:20-7:20-10

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:55-9:50

Tropic Thunder (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:05-9:55

WALL-E (G) Fri-Tue 1:05-3:35-7 Wed 1:05-3:35 Thu 1:05-3:35-7

WWE: Summerslam 2008 (STC) Sun 6

UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN
612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

Amal (14A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:40-3-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20

The Edge of Heaven (STC) Fri-Thu 4:50

Savage Grace (18A) Fri 7:10-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:45-7:10-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:10

Young People F...ing (18A) Fri-Thu 5

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

The Dark Knight Fri-Thu 12:20-3:35-6:55-10:15

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:40-9:20

MirrorsNo Passes Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:25-10:10

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:50-7:30-10:05 Mon 1:05-3:50-10:05 Tue-Thu 1:05-3:50-7:30-10:05

Pineapple Express (18A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:20-10

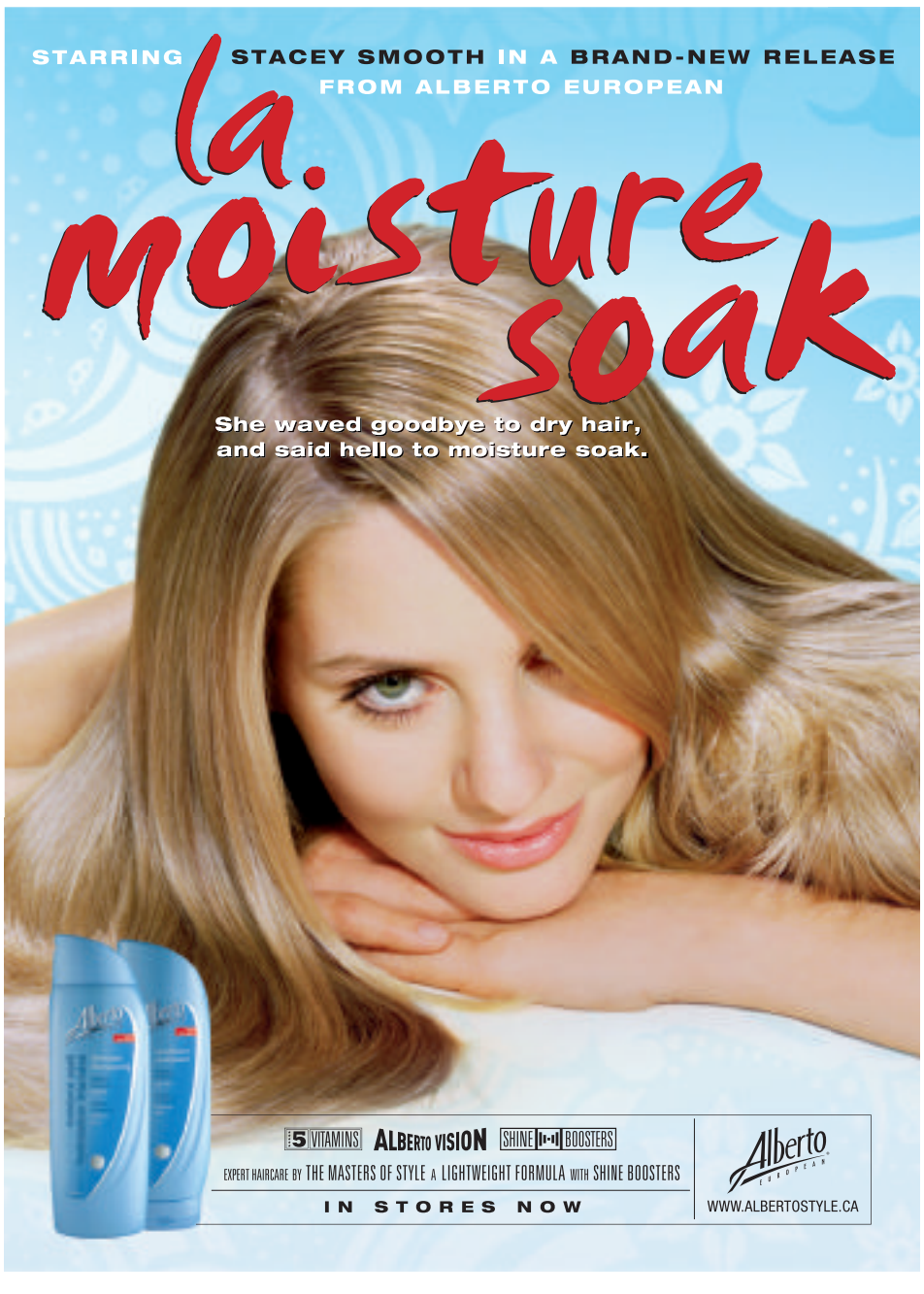
The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-7:05-9:50

Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7-9:40

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:20-7:10-9:45

Tropic Thunder (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35-3:10-7:35-10:20

Vicky Cristina Barcelona (14A) Fri-Thu 12:25-3-6:45-9:30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The bestselling albums on Amazon.ca

1. Hannah Montana 2: Meet Miley Cyrus, Miley Cyrus, left; 2. Viva La Vida, Coldplay; 3. Mamma Mia! Soundtrack, Various Artists; 4. A Little Bit Longer, Jonas Brothers; 5. Two Men with the Blues, Willie Nelson & Wynton Marsalis. METRO

Music

The future of rock in China

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

alan@ongoinghistory.com

On the immigration card you're given just before you land in Beijing, you're asked about your health. "Are you moment experiencing any of the following conditions: Coughing, fever, nauseas, headaches, sweats, sneezing or snivelling?" (Snivelling? What does that even mean?)

The card also warns you of the penalties for transporting any unauthorized material into the country.

One can assume this means any form of media that may be considered to have a corrupting influence on the culture of China. Pornography, for example, is forbidden. So is anything that might cause offence to the government. Which brings me to music.

Tens of thousands of Westerners are visiting China for the Olympics. Millions more will be lured later after this giant coming-out party winds down. I'm willing to bet that the Beijing rock scene will benefit greatly.

Although Chinese rock stars do exist — my favourite is Cui Jian, the anointed Father of Chinese Rock, whose song, I Have Nothing/Nothing to My Name, was an unofficial anthem of the Tiananmen Square uprising — they're almost completely unknown outside the country.

There are many flavours of zhōngguó yáog n — Chinese rock — as there are in the West: Punk, extreme metal, Goth, alt-rock, hip-hop, electronica. Music-minded visitors looking for colour will no doubt find Beijing clubs like MAO Live House, D-22 and Yugong Yishan, where they'll find music that could only be made by people exploding after generations of oppression and authoritarian rule.

"Some music industry experts are looking at China for clues on how they can adapt to the new realities they face at home."

Maybe someone will get discovered. Some people are betting on Joyslide, a group from north of Beijing who have released albums with titles like Drunk is Beautiful and Everything Sucks.

Or maybe zhōngguó yáog n has something to teach us. Because pirates and counterfeiters destroyed all semblance of a Western-style music industry years ago, some music industry experts are looking at China for clues on how they can adapt to the new realities they face at home. If you can't sell CDs, how can you make a living? This year's Music Matters Asia, the annual Asia-Pacific music forum in Hong Kong was the biggest yet, and featured speakers like U2 manager Paul McGuinness and Terry McBride of Canada's Nettwerk Records.

No one knows what long-term effects the Olympics will have on China, but I have a feeling that music is going to be involved somewhere along the way.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read the daily Music Geek blog at ongoinghistory.com

Urban pop copycats

Girlicious spun out of Pussycat Dolls reality show

AMANDA TRUSCOTT
for Metro Canada

They writhe about in their underwear and smack each other with pillows in their music video "Stupid Sh--," but the Girlicious girls want the world to know they're not just some reality TV cliché.

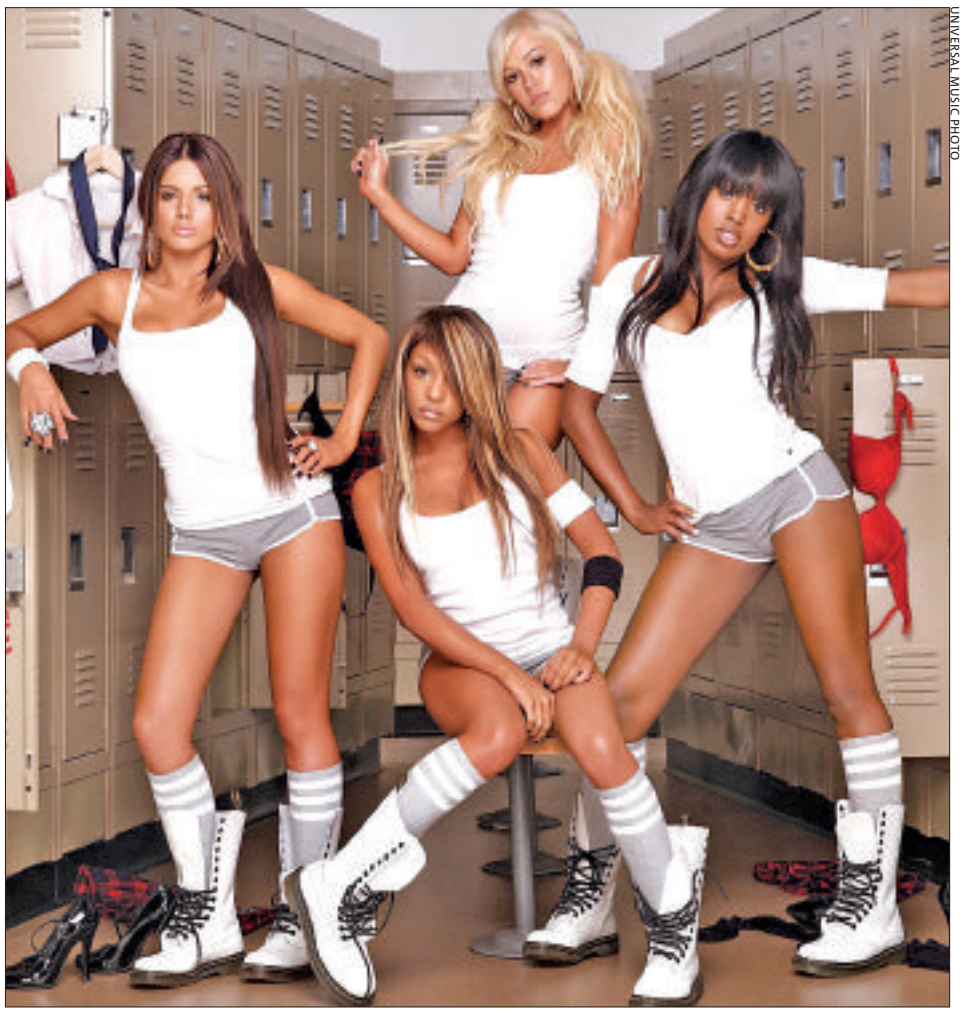
"There are so many people who are skeptical because we come from a reality TV show, so one thing that's important is that we stick together to prove to the world that we're real artists," says Tiffanie Anderson, 19.

She and bandmates Natalie Mejia, Nichole Cordova and Chrystina Sayers were chosen by a panel of judges — including Robin Antin, the brains behind the Pussycat Dolls — on the show Pussycat Dolls Present: Girlicious.

There was some conflict between the four girls as they went through the Pussycat Dolls Boot Camp meant to determine which of the thirty contestants would be chosen, but they say they've put the cattiness behind them.

Jewelry clinks as they squish together on a plush white couch in the Pantages Hotel. "It took a month after we won the competition, into the album, to actually come together and put our differences aside, and just realize that we're all a team," says Mejia, 19.

She says their music, their dancing and their style make them unique. "It's urban pop. We have everything from pop to R&B on our album, and our dancing as well. We dance like boys. We get really low to the ground and go all out, and you'll usually catch us in some motorcycle boots or Doc Martens."



UNIVERSAL MUSIC PHOTO

Girlicious dropped their self-titled debut album earlier this week.

"It took a month after we won the competition, into the album, to actually come together and put our differences aside, and just realize that we're all a team."

Natalie Mejia

Cordova says they want their music to touch people. "We just want people to really connect to it and, you know, feel what we're saying, feel how we're singing, and the emotion that we're bringing across."

Rather than making them a bunch of fakes, Sayers says their reality TV roots make them a stronger group. "They went through thousands and thousands of girls, and I really feel like we were the cream of the crop out of all those different cities they went to," she says.

They admit to having surrendered creative control over their music, but Mejia says that doesn't mean they're not creative. "We all do write, and we all do choreograph, we all do all kinds of stuff about hair and makeup in the group."

They won't let themselves be trampled by the industry either, Anderson says. "'Cause we're like, 19-year-old girls, so they just think we're stupid. We just, we let them think we're dumb, and we do our research."

This Day In Music History
In 2000, David Bowie and Iman welcomed their first child, Alexandria Zahra Jones, into the world. A statement at the time reports that Bowie is involved in the delivery process and even cuts the umbilical cord. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Duchovny developing rock comedy

MOVIES Husband-and-wife actor/producers David Duchovny and Tea Leoni will be making music with CBS Films, which has acquired the comedy spec script Born to Rock.

Conceived and developed by Duchovny and Leoni's film production company, And Then Prods., the project revolves around a group of struggling, aging rock musicians. Because of a mix-up in their demo tape, they end up catching a record executive's attention for a children's song written on a lark.

Duchovny, who described the project as "rock 'n' roll meets the sippy-cup crowd," noted the relevance of mixing older musicians with youth-oriented music. "It speaks to a cultural phenomenon that is happening right now in music," he said. REUTERS

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Hanks to join Mad Men

Actor Colin Hanks, left, will be joining the cast of Mad Men for three episodes this season, beginning Sunday. He will play a young priest visiting the church that Peggy's family attends, tvguide.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

TV

CHINOOK LEARNING SERVICES
Calgary Board of Education
High School Upgrading

Child moonlighting as spy?

The Hills star lands cameo in sitcom

NEW ROLE The Hills star Audrina Patridge has landed a cameo role in new sitcom Do Not Disturb alongside Jerry O'Connell and Niecy Nash, imdb.com reports.

The reality TV star will feature in an episode of the upcoming Fox series, about staff at a luxury hotel, which is due to air later this year.

And Patridge is excited to be able to put her acting skills to the test.

She writes on her official website, "(The show) takes place in New York City at a swanky hotel.

"I will be playing a guest checking into the hotel and I am going to film my scenes sometime next week! I think Jerry O'Connell is hysterical (have you guys seen his video on that website FunnyorDie!?) and I can't wait to meet Niecy!"

Patridge is also set to appear in new movie Into The Blue 2, according to People.com.

. **METRO NEW SERVICES**

GETTY IMAGES

Actress Audrina Patridge.

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

SPIES LIKE US: It's not like it was ever really a secret — the factoid has been showing up in her biographies for years, and appeared in her New York Times obituary — but with the release of declassified U.S. government documents yesterday, it's official: Julia Child was a spy.

In addition to being one of the first ever celebrity TV chefs, Child was an operative for the Office of Strategic Services, the Second World War-era predecessor to the CIA, a distinction she shares with Chicago White Sox pitcher Moe Berg, actor Sterling Hayden, the sons of Theodore Roosevelt and Ernest Hemingway, historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. and the father of the drummer in new wave superstars The Police, according to an Associated Press story.

More than 35,000 OSS documents have been declassified, shedding light on the agency's membership and history during the fight against Nazi Germany, and finally offering an explanation for why Child, who died in 2004 and was a fixture on PBS for four decades, could noiselessly kill a full-grown man with a set of measuring spoons and build a car bomb with a mixture of rubbed thyme and smoked paprika.

GETTY IMAGES

Chef Julia Child circa 1965 on her TV series The French Chef.

In addition to being one of the first ever celebrity TV chefs, Child was an operative for the Office of Strategic Services.

NETWORK DEATH KNELL: Everyone knows that cable has been stealing lunch from the big broadcast networks for years now, but a story in Advertising Age this week has the numbers in excruciating detail — the sorts of figures that should be causing some weeping and wailing in corner offices in Manhattan and Hollywood.

With their shift away from "acquired programming" — the licensed and syndicated shows, movies and reruns that still dominate programming on cable channels such as TCM, TV Land and Nick At Nite in the U.S., and TVtropolis, Showcase Diva and Action here in Canada — to original programming, leading cable channels have turned themselves into an army of HBOs in the last few years, but it's only in the last year or two that they've invested in promoting their original fare, and it's paying off.

A study by the Cable Advertising Bureau revealed that the average amount of original programming grew from around 741 shows a week to 1,407 in the past five years, a leap that's reflected in double-digit growth in advertising revenue and a 10 per cent growth in ad sales during upfronts.

Viewer totals in the last year also doubled, putting the cherry on top of a very tidy equation that's got to look bad down on the lower reaches of the dial, since it's meant an equivalent drop-off in viewers for the networks.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

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America's next top transgender model?

FASHION One of the 14 girls who will compete on the new season of America's Next Top Model — which returns to The CW on Sept. 3 — is transgender, usmagazine.com reports.

"My cards were dealt differently," Isis, a 22-year-old former receptionist, tells Us Weekly exclusively in its new issue, on newsstands now.

Hailing from Prince George's County, Md., Isis identifies herself as "a woman born physically male."

Will she be a role model? "I like to help people, but I'm here to follow my dreams," she tells Us.

The inclusion of Isis is being hailed by GLAAD president Neil Giuliano as "an unprecedented opportunity for a community that is underrepresented on television.

"We applaud Tyra Banks and The CW for making this historic visibility of transgender people possible," Giuliano said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Regis to meet Your Mother
Television personality Regis Philbin will guest-star on How I Met Your Mother this fall. Philbin will play himself in an episode, scheduled to air Sept. 29, which concerns Marshall's search for the restaurant in which he had his first New York burger. **TVGUIDE.COM**

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot now

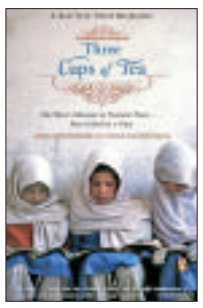
1 Dexter: The Complete First Season

This four-disc DVD set of Season 2 of Dexter, the dark TV series about a serial killer you can't help but side with, comes out on Tuesday. Michael C. Hall stars as Dexter Morgan, the forensics expert who leads a double life.

2 Mamma Mia! Movie soundtrack

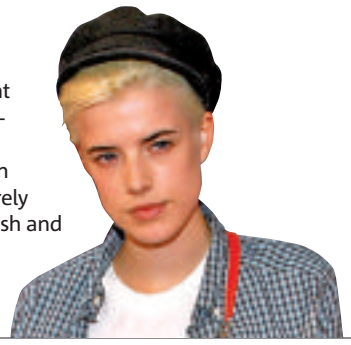
The music of supergroup ABBA comes into the spotlight again, this time as the soundtrack to Mamma Mia, the movie based on the musical. Take a chance on actors Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan singing SOS. Pure pop culture fun.

3 Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortenson



Eleven people died recently after an ice avalanche swept climbers away and left others stranded on K2, the world's second-highest mountain in Pakistan. Greg Mortenson also tried to climb the mountain, and lived to write about it. Three Cups of Tea recounts his experience on K2, and subsequent work that led to the creation of the Central Asia Institute, which has built more than 50 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan.

4 Agyness Deyn



Fashion's current "It Girl," 25-year-old model Agyness Deyn, has been on the industry's radar for barely two years. It's her tomboyish and '80s-inspired style off the runways that has made her memorable.

5 Who's Gonna Save My Soul, by Gnarls Barkley

Girl-breaks-up-with-boy in the video for Gnarls Barkley's Who's Gonna Save My Soul. Anyone who's suffered heartache will relate to this clip, which features a heart on a plate that steals the show. The song itself, while more mellow than the group's previous hit, Crazy, is just as addictive.

6 Olympic Cocktail

Raise a glass to our Canadian athletes participating in the Games in Beijing, China, with the Olympic Cocktail, courtesy of barmandrinks.com: ¾ oz. of orange juice; ¾ oz. of Triple Sec; and ¾ oz. of brandy. Shake all ingredients with ice. Strain into a cocktail glass and ready, set, serve. Please remember to drink responsibly!

7 BBC Languages

If you've always wanted to learn a language, lessons are only a click away at bbc.co.uk/languages. BBC News' website will help you fine-tune your parlez-vous with audio, video, tests, games, dictionaries and more.

Dallas stars reunite for 30th

TELEVISION The stars of Dallas are reuniting to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the iconic show, imdb.com reports.

Cast members of the popular prime-time soap opera that ran from 1978-1991 will return to the Southfork Ranch near Dallas on Nov. 8 to commemorate the date.

Larry Hagman, Linda Gray and Patrick Duffy have all confirmed they will attend the event.

Hagman, who played character J.R. Ewing, is also looking forward to the party. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

FRIDAY 8/15/08

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317 3 CFCN	TMZ (N)	Jeopardy!	Greek "Picking Teams"		Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		Without a Trace		News (N)
	-	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Legally Blonde ★★ (2001, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon.				20/20 (N)
	245	306 6 CBRT	(4) XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)						XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)		
	244	338 7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	Very Bad Men		Swingtown (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS "Black Swan"		News Hour
	246	- 8 CKAL	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Stargate Atlantis		Reaper "Rebellion"		The Collector (DVS)		Your City
	119	705 9 CBXFT	Chine	La Zone olympique (N) (SC)			Le Téléjournal	Les XXIXe Jeux Olympiques d'été			
	-	372 12 KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	Friends	Scrubs	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		NUMB3RS "Black Swan"		Swingtown
	-	374 14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Wash. Week	McLaughlin	Foreign	NOW on PBS	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		Mediterranean
	-	370 16 KHQ	News	Raymond	Jeopardy!	Wheel-Fortune	XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV)				
	-	373 22 KAYU	NFL Preseason Football Oakland Raiders at Tennessee Titans.				According-Jim	King of the Hill	'70s Show	The Simpsons	News (N)
news	502	390 15 CBC	CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		fifth estate
	500	500 29 CNN	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	501	391 52 CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400 21 TSN	CFL Football: Alouettes at Argonauts			SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Boxing Friday Night Fights. (HDTV)		
	408	418 27 net	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected		Saturday Night Poker		Sportsnet Connected		Ult. Fighter
family	552	543 20 YTV	The Next Star (N)		Dance, Sunset	Dance, Sunset	Hit List		The Next Star		Falcon Beach
	557	541 39 FAM	Zoey 101	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Disney Games	High School Musical 2 (2007) Zac Efron.		(10:45) Baby Geniuses		
cable variety	-	- 18 CHTV	'70s Show	E News	Britney Spears Singer Britney Spears. (N)				20/20 "Vanished: Coeds"		News (N)
	603	561 25 FOOD	Tasty Travels	Food Safari	Diner, Drive-In	Road Tasted	Dinner Imposs.	Glutton	Iron Chef America		Tasty Travels
	615	520 26 A&E	CSI: Miami		The Cleaner "Rag Dolls"		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami
	617	522 32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Billable Hours	ReGenesis "Unbearable"		Cold Squad		Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams
	520	505 35 DISC	Man vs. Wild "Sahara"		Forensic Factor (N)		Daily Planet		Man vs. Wild "Sahara"		Handyman
	628	584 43 SPIKE	Shocking Moments		World's Most Amazing Videos		Disorderly Conduct: Video		MANswers	MANswers	GameTrailers
	522	516 45 HIST	Disaster-Cent.	Masterminds	NCIS "Iced"		Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld		NCIS
	581	566 102 MTV	Run's House	Buzzin	From G's to Gents		MTV Shuffle		Living on Edge	Super Sweet	G's to Gents

SATURDAY 8/16/08

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317 3 CFCN	W-FIVE-Canadaville		Murder in the Hamptons ★★ (2005, Docudrama) (DVS)				Comedy Now	Comedy Inc.	News (N)
	-	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	The Insider (N)	Entertainment Tonight		Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde (2003, Comedy)				Eli Stone
	245	306 6 CBRT	(4) XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)						XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)		
	244	338 7 CICT	Andromeda		2008 Alberta Summer Games		Andromeda (Part 1 of 2)		renegadepress	renegadepress	News (N)
	246	- 8 CKAL	Blood Ties (DVS)		Murdoch Mysteries		Ripper: Letter From Hell ★ (2001, Horror) A.J. Cook, Bruce Payne. (DVS)				
	119	705 9 CBXFT	Céline	La Zone olympique (N) (SC)			Le Téléjournal	Les XXIXe Jeux Olympiques d'été (HDTV)			
	-	372 12 KREM	News (N)	Scrubs	A New Smile, a New Life		The Unit "Bait" (HDTV)		48 Hours Mystery (N)		48 Hr. Mystery
	-	374 14 KSPS	The Lawrence Welk Show		May-December	Time Goes By	Anne of Green Gables			Chronicles	Elvis Lives
	-	370 16 KHQ	News	CSI: Miami		XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV)					
	-	373 22 KAYU	NFL Preseason Football Chicago Bears at Seattle Seahawks. From Qwest Field in Seattle.						America's Most Wanted		News (N)
news	502	390 15 CBC	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone: Dubai		Sat. Report	Fortune	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone
	500	500 29 CNN	Larry King Live		Newsroom		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		Saturday Night
	501	391 52 CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400 21 TSN	(4:30) XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre		Boxing Joshua Clottey vs. Zab Judah.		
	408	418 27 net	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected		Motorcycle Racing		Saturday Night Poker		Sportsnet Con.
family	552	543 20 YTV	Prank Patrol	Ghost	Storm Hawks	Storm Hawks	Dragon Ball Z	Anti-Gravity	Zatch Bell (N)	Bleach	Storm Hawks
	557	541 39 FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Look Who's Talking ★★ (1989, Comedy)		
cable variety	-	- 18 CHTV	E News	Greatest Myst.	A Trick of the Mind (2006, Suspense) (DVS)				Inside Hollywood (DVS)		News (N)
	603	561 25 FOOD	Dinner Imposs.	Bobby Flay	Top Chef		Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Iron Chef America		Top Chef
	615	520 26 A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48
	617	522 32 SHOW	The Wrong Guy ★★ (1998, Comedy) Dave Foley.				The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico (2005, Comedy)				Kenny-Spenny
	520	505 35 DISC	Deadliest Catch		Criss Angel	Criss Angel	A Haunting An evil entity.		Dirty Jobs		Criss Angel
	628	584 43 SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		TNA iMPACT!				MuscleCar
	522	516 45 HIST	Underworld Histories		NCIS		Re-Inventors	Re-Inventors	Out of Time ★★ (2003, Suspense)		
	581	566 102 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs	Cribs	MTV Shuffle		MTV Live

SUNDAY 8/17/08

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317 3 CFCN	Instant Star (N)	Samantha Who	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Cold Case (HDTV)		Million Dollar Password		News (N)
	-	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	Explorer TV	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition The team rebuilds.				Housewives
	245	306 6 CBRT	(4) XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)						XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)		
	244	338 7 CICT	renegadepress	American Dad	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Big Brother 10 (N)		Family Guy	American Dad	News (N)
	246	- 8 CKAL	Friends	Hates Chris	Funniest Home Videos		The Pledge ★★★ (2001, Drama) Jack Nicholson.				Speakers Crnr.
	119	705 9 CBXFT	Découverte (N)	La Zone olympique (N) (SC)			Le Téléjournal	Les XXIXe Jeux Olympiques d'été (HDTV)			
	-	372 12 KREM	News (N)		60 Minutes		Big Brother 10 (N)		Million Dollar Password		Cold Case
	-	374 14 KSPS	Germans in America		Nature (DVS)		Masterpiece (N) (DVS)			Passport-Adv.	P.O.V.
	-	370 16 KHQ	News	Wheel-Fortune	XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV)						
	-	373 22 KAYU	American Idol Rewind		'Til Death	'Til Death	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Sarah Connor Chronicles		News (N)
news	502	390 15 CBC	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Recipes for Disaster			Our World	CBC News: Sunday Night		Disaster
	500	500 29 CNN	Larry King Live		Newsroom		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	501	391 52 CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400 21 TSN	(4) XXIX Summer Olympics (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre		NASCAR Racing		NASCAR Now
	408	418 27 net	(6) MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at San Diego Padres.				Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Connected		Ult. Fighter
family	552	543 20 YTV	Are We There Yet? ★★ (2005, Comedy) Ice Cube, Nia Long, Jay Mohr.					Uh Oh!	The Next Star		Falcon Beach
	557	541 39 FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Superman II (1980, Science Fiction)		
cable variety	-	- 18 CHTV	Stunt Stars		The Soup	Weekend	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition The team rebuilds.				News (N)
	603	561 25 FOOD	Iron Chef America (N)		Jamie at Home	Nigella	Road Grill	Licence to Grill	Iron Chef America		Scoop!
	615	520 26 A&E	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Two Coreys	Two Coreys	Two Coreys	Two Coreys	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons
	617	522 32 SHOW	TBA	Billable Hours	Cleaverville (2007, Suspense) Ever Carradine.				Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Eyes Wide Sh
	520	505 35 DISC	Doomsday 2012		MythBusters		Rogue Nature "Elephants"		Nostradamus: The Truth		Doomsday2012
	628	584 43 SPIKE	(6) Kung Fu Hustle (2004)		Kung Fu Killer (2008, Adventure) David Carradine.				Kung Fu Killer (2008, Adventure), Daryl Hannah		
	522	516 45 HIST	Lost Inventions		NCIS "UnSEALed"		Engineering an Empire		Elizabeth ★★★ (1998, Historical Drama)		
	581	566 102 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs

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Fatherhood lies in actor Bernal's future

Actor Gael Garcia Bernal has confirmed he is to become a first-time father. Bernal has announced that his girlfriend, actress Dolores Fonzi, is pregnant. The baby is due early next year. **IMDB.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Pam's new boyfriend may be royal

RELATIONSHIPS Pamela Anderson is reportedly dating a member of the Abu Dhabi royal family, female-first.co.uk reports.

The actress has only revealed her new beau's name to a few select friends, but refers to him in conversation by the pet name she made up for him — Milk-Sheik or Milk for short.

Anderson first met the royal when she visited Abu Dhabi in June with the Make a Wish Foundation. Shortly after her trip, she announced she is joining forces with the royal family to build an eco-friendly hotel in the city.

Since then, Anderson's new love has reportedly isited her in Los Angeles.

"He is very handsome and Pammie looked very happy," a source said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Mom defends Sienna

RELATIONSHIPS Sienna Miller's mother has defended the actress over her much criticized relationship with actor Balthazar Getty, imdb.com reports.

Miller and Getty, who last month announced his separation from wife Rosetta, have enjoyed a whirlwind romance which has attracted criticism from the media.

Miller's mother, Jo, is upset at the reaction.

"It's awful, I can't tell you. You wonder when it's all going to stop," she says.

But Jo is pleased how some pals have jumped to her daughter's defence.

"Thank goodness some people are seeing the hypocrisy of it all," she says. "I know it makes Sienna pleased to read these things. It means a lot to her when there's so much negativity and criticism around."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Madonna not adopting again

RUMOUR A report that Madonna is adopting a three-year-old girl, Mercy James, from Malawi is not true, her rep tells Usmagazine.com.

"Madonna has not made an attempt to adopt this baby earlier this year or now," Liz Rosenberg said. "There is no truth to this rumour ... Madonna is starting her tour in a week."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Angelina's not replacing Tom

RUMOUR Angelina Jolie is not a "replacement" for Tom Cruise in the upcoming spy thriller Edwin A. Salt, MSNBC reports.

According to a source close to the film, the studio did want Cruise in the lead role, but the actor passed.

"This story about Jolie taking over is completely false ... this started with an inaccurate report months ago that said (Cruise) was taking the role," says the source. "They courted him for almost a year for this movie. He considered it but passed."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Implant talk irks Lindsay

RUMOUR Lindsay Lohan may be used to tabloid gossip about her own life. But she's fighting mad over recent rumours swirling around her 14-year-old sister Ali, People.com reports.

The 22-year-old actress took to her blog yesterday to slam online speculation that Alit may have undergone breast augmentation. In fact, Lindsay said she was confronted by a photographer who yelled, "What do you have to say about people commenting on your sister's implants?"

"It made me feel a bit sick to my stomach," Lindsay wrote on her MySpace Celebrity Blog. " ... My mother taught us to appreciate what we have been given," she wrote. "Nor would she ever encourage, or allow a 14-year-old child to alter her body."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Ashley, boyfriend make a scene

RELATIONSHIPS Ashley Olsen and her boyfriend, actor Justin Bartha, hardly came up for air during a recent dinner in New York City, where they were holding hands and making out all through the meal, PageSix.com reports.

"She was all over him," said a witness. "Ashley was very nice to everyone, but seemed more occupied with her boyfriend than anything else."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

Good on **Lindsay Lohan** for hitting back at those who speculate that her sister **Ali** has had breast implants.

She's proven that she's sober enough to navigate a computer and make an entry on her celebrity blog, and she only used 1,506 exclamation points this time.

Of course, defending her mother's parental instincts is a bit of a stretch. To avoid having to go into too many details, I've compiled a list of inanimate objects that have demonstrably superior parenting skills to those of **Dina Lohan**: a shephard's pie, fiberglass insulation, a beach umbrella, a tin ingot, and an electric fence.

Perhaps Lindsay is telling a kind of truth. Maybe her mother's lesson of "appreciating what we have been given" is a way to rationalize the creation of Living Lohan, a reality TV show whose sole purpose is to engender and promote the showbiz career Ali, and of course to draw the ire of **Anderson Cooper**. If fate gives you a car crash for a sister, make the most of it, especially if Mom says it's the right thing to do.

I could be wrong, but I bet Dina Lohan would let her daughter get piñata candy implants if she thought it would make her famous.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA

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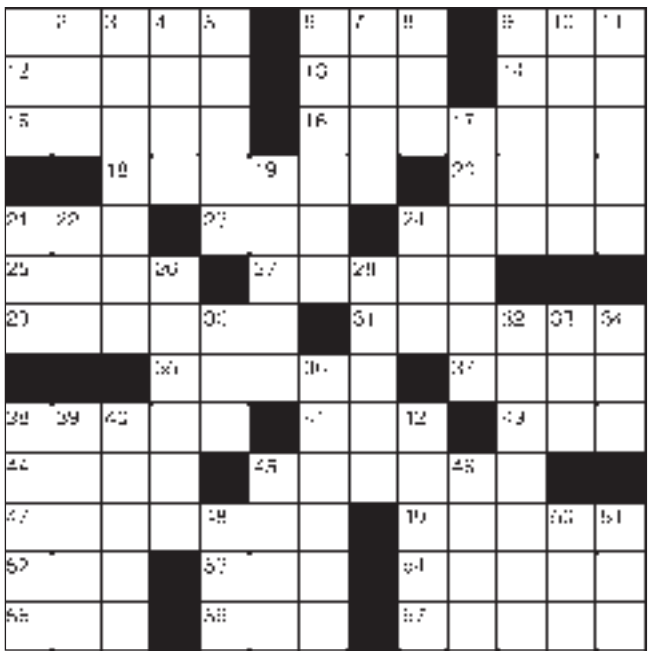
Burton and Carter sell NY apartment

Filmmaker Tim Burton and actress Helena Bonham Carter have reportedly sold their two New York apartments for $8.75 million US. The couple is reportedly on the move from their former home in the city's Greenwich Village area, imdb.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Biz deg.
2 "— Town"
3 Ironed
4 Kazakhstan river
5 Target of the Salk vaccine
6 Septuagenarian's next milestone
7 Defeat soundly
8 Wish otherwise
9 Magnetic flux unit
10 Trusty horse
11 Rice field
17 Arose suddenly
19 Greek physician
21 Picks out of a lineup
22 Pirouette pivot
24 Support system?
26 Hydrophobia
28 Entry on a to-do list
30 "— the season..."
32 Not naked
33 Legislation
34 Storm center
36 Eden, for one
38 Shul VIP
39 Early "Tonight Show" host Steve
40 Is introduced to
42 Apportions
45 Toiler
46 Basilica section
48 Hot tub
50 Work unit
51 Catcher's place

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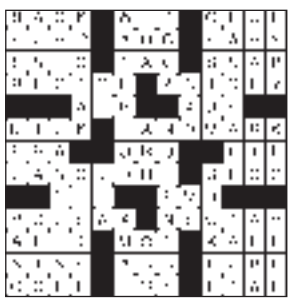
Crossword across

1 Trounce
6 Blunder
9 Recipe meas.
12 Pack animal
13 Chit
14 H look-alike
15 "He's — nowhere man"
16 Conjectured
18 Minimal
20 Begged
21 "Monty Python" opener
23 Feedbag morsel
24 Sitcom surname
25 Busy one
27 Spandex material
29 Tranquilize
31 Knob
35 Its participants must form a line
37 Confederate soldiers
38 Harold of "Ghostbusters"
41 Upper limb
43 Lamb's mama
44 Sheltered
45 Overuses the mirror
47 Holy
49 Shocking weapon
52 Wager
53 "The Raven" writer
54 Each
55 Office holders
56 — Arbor, Mich.
57 Marsh plant

previous day's answer



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A new job is more trouble than it's worth. A man will turn the other cheek. Pushing your ideas will lead to a spat.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Guilt over hurtful behaviour won't go away. A friend has a complaint and needs your help. A dispute continues with no end in sight.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A dire predicament will ease up. Have fun until someone tells you to stop. A friend makes a forceful statement about an imposition.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
There's no time to handle every ironic twist of fate. Career matters remain up in the air. An unhappy event results in punitive action.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Optimism has a reason to grow. Try something unconventional. Maintain a strong sense of perspective.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A co-worker promises much and delivers little. Appreciate the higher values in new connections. A problem can get out of hand.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A temperamental tyrant needs to be rescued. Arrange immediate crisis intervention. Concentrate on using lucid advice.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
A father figure's health becomes a concern. A fastidious person takes responsibility for a project. You might get a treat.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
Be gentle when someone falls flat on his face. Share your secrets about courage. Ask the right questions tonight.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A forbidden romance gives pure inspiration. A new rule triggers defense mechanisms. A visitor oozes charisma.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Shun those who challenge your motives. Discover fresh meaning in love. A crisis jostles your memory in the nick of time.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
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Sudoku

9	1		5	2	7			
								9
	6	8	3			1		
6				3				5
		2				3		
7				8				6
		5			9	4	7	
8								
			1	7	2		5	3

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

8	2	9	6	1	4	3	5	7
4	5	7	8	9	3	1	2	6
3	6	1	2	7	5	4	9	8
1	3	8	7	5	2	6	4	9
6	9	5	3	4	8	7	1	2
2	7	4	1	6	9	8	3	5
7	4	2	5	3	6	9	8	1
5	1	3	9	8	7	2	6	4
9	8	6	4	2	1	5	7	3

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

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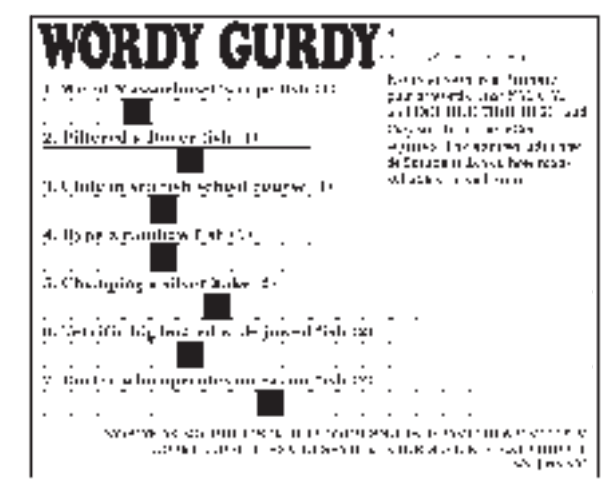

Calgary weather

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Sunny. 28°	Partly cloudy. Low 10°	Mainly sunny. 29°/ 13°	Sunny. 30°/ 15°	Sunny. 29°/ 11°

Temperature Normals
High: 22.9°
Low: 7.9°

Records
High: 34.4°/1961
Low: 0.6°/1935

Sunrise: 6:23 a.m.
Sunset: 8:56 p.m.
Moonset: 4:47 a.m.
Moonrise: 8:34 p.m.

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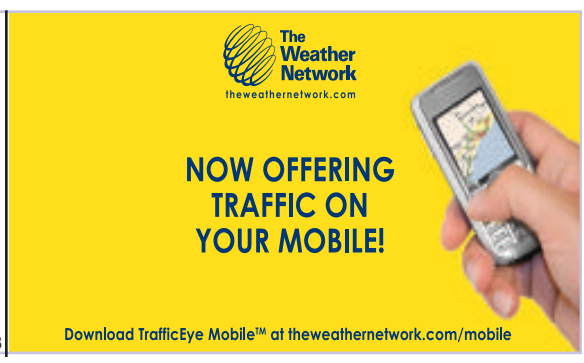

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10103 107th Ave.
10157 - 101 St.
12804 82nd St.
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18563 Stony Plain Rd
Bonnie Doon
Edmonton City Centre
Edmonton City Centre kiosk II
Kingsway Garden Mall
Londonderry Mall
Mill Woods Town Centre
Northgate Centre
Sherwood Park Mall
South Edmonton Common
Southgate Mall -kiosk
St. Albert Centre
St. Albert Trail at 137 Ave.
West Edmonton Mall
Westmount Centre
Whyte Avenue at 107 St.

EDSON
330 45th St. Unit 104

FORT MCMURRAY
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Peter Pond Shopping Centre

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Prairie Mall

LEDUC
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LETHBRIDGE
Lethbridge Smartcenters
Park Place Shopping Centre

LLOYDMINSTER
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